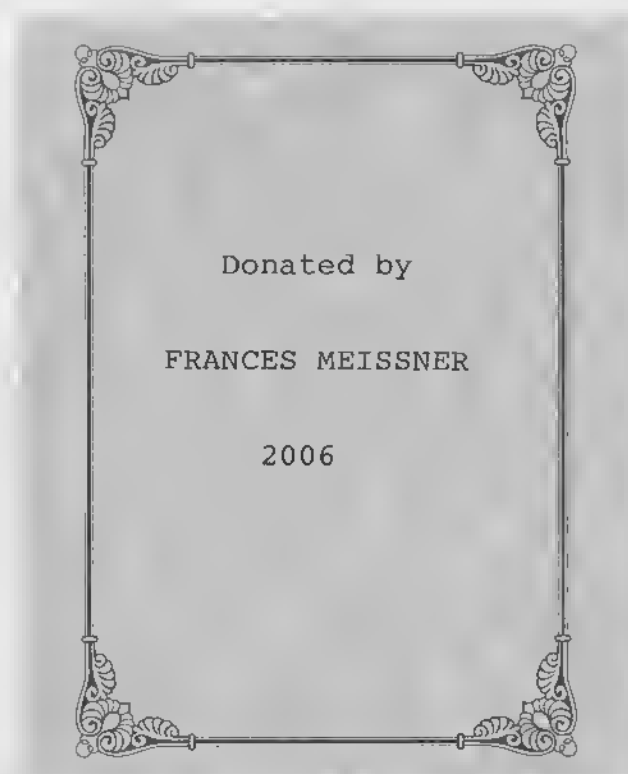


I had rather lose a limb & be free

The Johnson's Island Experiences of
John Taylor
Lieutenant 7th South Carolina Cavalry



Edited by
Frances Taylor Meissner
Charles William Meissner, Jr.
Seaford, Virginia
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Introduction

John Taylor was one of the young men who represented the heritage of family, wealth, learning, and service to the state of South Carolina at the opening of the Civil War. His mother, Sarah Martha Hayne, was descended from the first European settler in South Carolina. The Hayne family plantation was in the low country, and she grew up in Charleston. John's great-grandfather Isaac Hayne became a South Carolina martyr when he was accused of breaking parole and hanged by the British in 1781. Columbia, where John lived, was built on the plantation of his great-grandfather Thomas Taylor, a Revolutionary War hero. Both the Taylor and Hayne families owned large plantations, had many slaves, and were active in state and national politics. His grandfather John Taylor was a governor of South Carolina and a United States senator.

John's world, as well as the world of many wealthy southerners, began to change dramatically when the Civil War began in 1861. In 1862, John's older brother, William, died of a disease while fighting in Virginia. A 15 year old first cousin James Hunt Taylor was the first of the three flag bearers of the 1st Regiment South Carolina Infantry killed at Gaines' Mill, Virginia. Another first cousin Edmund Shubrick Hayne, age 19, was the second flag bearer of the 1st Regiment killed at Gaines' Mill. During the war years, other cousins and close friends were wounded and killed. John's brother Alex died in July 1865 at age 19 after a brief illness. John's father invested in the Confederacy. In 1865, his confederate bonds were worth nothing. The family had no money, no servants, and only two sons. The promise of a wonderful life was over.

John was at the South Carolina College when the war began. He and his friends went to Charleston to practice drilling and shooting. They had no concept of the hardships and horrors of war. In November 1861, John left college for good and enlisted in the Holcombe Legion Cavalry Battalion. John was 21 in July 1863 when he was captured near Tunstall's Station, New Kent County, Virginia and sent to Johnson's Island, Ohio. He fought only in minor skirmishes; never in a large, bloody battle. He read about his friends being wounded and killed, and he and most of his prisoner friends felt the hopelessness and boredom of prison life, and they especially missed the glory of war. John's brother William stated these feelings in a letter to his mother two weeks before he died, "...there is a growing fascination in danger accompanied with honor" (SCL folder 14-787).

Prison life must have been especially hard for the soldiers used to luxury and elegance. Yet John remained healthy, and 33 years later when he wrote his *War Memoranda* he said little of the hardships of prison life or of the bitter cold and lack of food. Even though the Hayne and Taylor families were related to or close friends with most of the important people in the state and in the Confederacy, they did not succeed in getting John released from Johnson's Island. They were helpless. John was released from Johnson's Island in March 1865 with most of the other prisoners.

John began writing *War Memoranda of John Taylor* in 1896. He stopped in 1898 before completing the task he had outlined. At the beginning of the book, John gave a short genealogical discussion. This is enough for the reader to understand his background and opinions. At the back of the book is a page titled "Prison Relics." The list included 31 items. Of these, 78 of the letters that he wrote or received while in prison, an autograph book, and a hand written song book still exist.

Most of the letters are between John and his mother. The tone of John's letters reveals the hopelessness and boredom he felt at being in prison. His mother suggested that he was safer where he was, "For the present, as much as we long to see you, we think you are safer where you are." John got angry and wrote to his brother Alex, "I am very sorry Mother regards my safety more than any thing else—No one except one who has experienced it can tell at all what prison life is—." He, as well as most of the other prisoners, would rather take their chances on the battlefield. Fellow South Carolinian James Campbell wrote to his brother in July 1864 after being transferred from Johnson's Island to Fort Delaware:

I can appreciate your meaning when you say that I am safer where I am then if I was with Lee that my Regiment will tell me they never saw Fighting untill they got with him. You don't know what I have indured in the last twelve months or in other words If I had my choice I would take my chance in twenty Battles rather than stay another twelve months in Prison. Prudence commands halt. I wish I had a chance to talk with you. I could tell you lots (Johnston, 154).

In October 1857, John's mother gave him a small red book titled *A Manual of Composition and Letter Writing*. John must have read the book carefully for he used many of the suggested techniques when writing home. Sarah's letters contain words of faith and comfort. "Truly our God is a prayer hearing & a prayer

answering God! Oh for grateful hearts to praise Him as we ought!—." She also kept him informed of all of his friends who were wounded, captured, or killed. John said that "Dixie letters as we call them are great treats to prisoners."

The prisoners could supplement their government provided necessities by purchasing clothing, food, and other items from sutlers, merchants who were allowed into the prisons. In November 1863, the sutlers were removed from the prisons in retaliation for the treatment of Northern prisoners by the Confederates. When the sutlers were allowed to return, they could not sell food or clothing, but could sell paper, stamps, small articles, and autograph books. Collecting autographs became a popular pastime, and many Johnson's Island autograph books still exist. Many of the books were sold by the sutler and are identical to John's. In the books, the prisoners wrote their names, ranks, units, places of capture, and hometowns. Some books contain poems and drawings reflecting the personalities of their owners. John began collecting autographs on February 20, 1864. The last autographs were entered in March 1865. John collected 107 autographs of prisoners from all parts of the Confederacy.

John Taylor's Johnson's Island song book is 30 pages long and contains 45 songs and poems. Most of the pages are cross-written. The songs must have been contributed by many different prisoners since the handwriting varies from song to song. Some of the songs were the popular songs of the era, and some were written or modified by prisoners to reflect their situation.

Johnson's Island

In October 1861, General M. C. Meigs, quartermaster general of the United States Army asked Lieutenant Colonel William Hoffmann to look at the islands in Lake Erie near Sandusky, Ohio and find a suitable island for Confederate prisoners. General Meigs requested that, "The locality selected, should not be in a higher latitude than that of the west end of Lake Erie in order to avoid too rigorous a climate" (OR s.2 v.3 pt.1, 49). Hoffman recommended Johnson's Island in Sandusky Bay.

I examined also an island in Sandusky Bay opposite the city. It is two and three quarters miles from the city and on the other side it is a full mile from the mainland. It contains about 300 acres, one-half of which with the privilege of using the fallen timber as fuel can be leased for \$500 a year with the entire control of the remainder of the island, so that no person would be permitted to land on it except by permission. There are some forty acres of cleared land affording a good site for the buildings fronting on the water toward the city. Its nearness to the city gives great facilities for building and furnishing supplies and it is accessible at all seasons of the year. The only objection to it is that it is too little isolated, but this may be remedied by so inclosing the ground occupied by the prisoners as to confine them there except when they go out by permission. The cost of such a work would be much less than for any similar work on any of the outer islands and is of very little greater extent. The proximity of the city would prevent any possibility of a rising upon the guard, and if any were to escape the neighborhood could be put on the lookout for them by the discharging of a cannon and their recapture would be almost certain. I recommend this island - Johnson's Island - as decidedly the best location for a depot that I have seen (OR s.2 v.3 pt.1, 56).

The prison area was approximately 16 acres enclosed by a fence 15 feet high. Inside the fence were 13 two story barracks called blocks. Twelve blocks housed prisoners, and one was a hospital. The buildings were in two long rows separated by a 150 foot wide street with even numbered blocks on one side and odd numbered on the other. Block 13 was at the end between blocks 11 and 12. Blocks one to four were originally constructed for officers and contained 11 rooms on each floor. The other blocks were divided into three rooms on each floor. Each building contained two kitchens. The buildings were built as cheaply as possible and had no insulation. South Carolina prisoner Angus Brown told of cracks between the weatherboarding so large that when it snowed there were snow drifts on his blanket (Brooks, 497). There were other buildings inside the stockade fence including the sutler store, wash house, the pest house for contagious diseases, and small buildings for condemned prisoners. The wide street was the "bull pen" where the prisoners could exercise. Behind the rows of barracks were stakes representing the deadline. If a prisoner stepped into this area, he was to be shot. Outside the fence were the headquarters, barracks, and other buildings necessary to house the guards and maintain the prison. The original cost was \$30,000.

In April 1862, Johnson's Island received its first prisoners. As many as 10,000 Confederate men may have been confined there for varying periods of time from April 1862 until September 1865 when the last prisoner left. In June 1862, Johnson's Island became the prison for Confederate officers, but it still held a few enlisted and citizen prisoners. On June 30, 1863, there were 806 prisoners. By the end of July, 904 prisoners were added, increasing the population to 1,710. In addition to John Taylor, the number included the prisoners from Gettysburg and Port Hudson, Louisiana (OR s.2 v.8 pt.1, 990). This number varied each month according to the number of captures, exchanges, or deaths. Today, all that is left of the Johnson's Island prison are the graves of 206 prisoners.

In December 1863, Colonel William Pierson post commander at Johnson's Island responded to the official accusations that the prisoners were suffering from cold and hunger.

HDQRS. HOFFMAN'S BATT., DEPOT PRISONERS OF WAR, Near Sandusky, Ohio,
December 25, 1863.

Colonel WILLIAM HOFFMAN,
Commissary-General of Prisoners, Washington, D. C.:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, inclosing an extract from a letter of Dr. Montrose A. Pallen, dated at Montreal on the 14th of December instant, to Honorable E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War, in which Doctor Pallen states that he has received communications which reveal the suffering condition of the prisoners of war confined at Johnson's Island, Point Lookout, Camp Chase, and Camp Douglas; that many of the men are without the necessary clothing even to hide their nakedness, and during the last cold weather several of them absolutely froze to death at Point Lookout, where they are living in tents, and more than half of the 9,000 and more there confined have not even a single blanket for covering or bedding, and sleep on the bare ground. You require me, in reply to the statements in the abstract from the letter of Doctor Pallen to the Secretary of War, to make a detailed report of the condition of the prisoners in my charge, their accommodations in barracks or tents, their subsistence, their clothing, and the provisions made for them in hospital.

I have the honor to report that the specific allegations appear by said extract to be confined to Point Lookout, leaving the general charge of the "suffering condition of the prisoners of war" alone applicable to the depot for prisoners of war near Sandusky, which general charge will be most effectually controverted by the facts hereinafter reported respecting their actual condition, as indeed the specific allegations contained in said extract of the letter of Doctor Pallen would be, if considered at all applicable to this depot. There are now at this depot 2,633 men prisoners, embracing 287 general, field, and staff officers and 2,274 company officers. The remainder are privates, political prisoners, persons sentenced by courts-martial, and spies. This depot is located on an island in Sandusky Bay, three miles from the city of Sandusky. There is an inclosure of fifteen acres on the south side of the island. It is covered with grass and the prisoners have the full range of the inclosure to within thirty feet of the fence. Within this inclosure are thirteen barracks, in which the prisoners are quartered. The buildings are two stories in height, four of which are severally 117 feet long, 29 feet wide, and each divided into 22 rooms, 2 kitchens and mess-rooms included. Each building contains on an average 150 prisoners. Four of the other barracks are severally 130 feet long and 24 feet wide, divided into 6 rooms. There are 2 kitchens to each barrack, built on as additions to the main building. In each of these barracks are quartered about 230 prisoners. The four other barracks are severally 130 feet long and 24 feet wide, divided into 6 rooms, with 2 kitchens each, in addition to the main building, and in each are quartered 270 prisoners. In the above no allowance is made for those absent in hospital. The remaining building is the hospital. It is 126 feet long, 30 feet wide, and divided into 4 wards. There are, besides, a steward's room and a consulting room. All of the barracks have bunks and stoves in each room. Every bunk has a straw tick, and each prisoner has a blanket issued to him if he has not sufficient of his own, and additional blankets have been issued when called for on complaint of being cold, so that each bunk for two men has an average of three blankets. With regard to clothing, your orders are to issue it when absolutely necessary. It is done when the prisoner is not protected from suffering on account of the cold, or when his clothing is so worn as not to protect his person. Until the sutler was removed, in November last, the prisoners had opportunity to purchase clothing, when needed, to the amount of one suit and change of

underclothing, as directed by you, but they have no opportunity now to purchase, and no clothing is allowed, by your orders, to be delivered to the prisoners from their friends, except such as is sent from near relatives, and as many of the prisoners have no relatives within our lines the issue of clothing by the Government will have to be largely increased should these prisoners remain any great length of time. By the report of Lieutenant L. M. Brooks, accompanying herewith, it will be seen that since last January there have been issued to prisoners, 1,046 trousers, 1,022 shirts, 200 blouses, 270 drawers, 13 greatcoats, and 796 pair of shoes. The same quality of rations are issued to the prisoners as to the troops, and in quantity the same as the old army rations. The quantity is much greater, in point of fact, than to the troops on the island, allowing for the company savings resold to the commissary. Bread is issued daily, the same having been baked at the post bakehouse, and is distributed among the different messes of prisoners according to their several numbers. Fresh beef is issued five days in a week. It is cut up and delivered to the different messes according to numbers. Wood is delivered cut into four-foot lengths. The prisoners do all their work of every description, cooking and policing included, and cutting up their wood. It is practically difficult to have them keep their quarters properly policed at all times, either through an appeal to their own health or comfort or by such discipline and punishment as is resorted to secure sufficient cleanliness from the details daily made for that purpose from among the prisoners. There is a surgeon and also a physician hired to assist him, who have the charge of the hospital. I believe the sick have had every care and kindness compatible with their condition as prisoners of war. I refer you to the report of Doctor Woodbridge, the surgeon, accompanying herewith, for more particular information respecting the hospital and other provisions for the sick, with the assurance that his statements can be relied on as correct.

In considering the mortality it should be taken into consideration that many came here after great exposure in camp, on marches, and on the battle-field; many wounded, many sick on their arrival, and many very much emaciated. The smallpox has been brought here on three different occasions by prisoners having the disease on their arrival, so that they were carried at once into the pest-house. The truth is that the health of the prisoners greatly improves while at this depot, so much so that there is a marked change in their appearance for the better between their arrival and departure.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. PIERSON, Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post (OR s.2 v.6.pt.1, 758-60).

In August 1864 two mess halls, kitchens and washrooms were added. Colonel Charles Hill Commander at Johnson's Island reported to Colonel William Hoffman about the building project.

I carefully presented the opportunity for carpenters and laborers among the prisoners to engage in the work going on for their benefit and accommodation, at the rates of compensation named in your circular, by a notice placed on the bulletin board in the prison, inviting such as were willing to assist to give their names to the lieutenants calling the rolls in the morning, but thus far not a name has been reported. Probably it is a pure matter of dignity. They can beg clothing and food from the Government, but can't labor even for their own convenience (OR s.3. v.7 pt.1, 563).

John Taylor was first assigned to Block 12 in one large room housing 50 or more men. In June 1864, he moved to Block 1 which contained smaller rooms. His room there housed 8 men and was much warmer. Pasted onto the inside cover of John's autograph book was Special Orders No. 20 issued January 20, 1865. The order stated that Block 1 was going to be reserved for prisoners who applied to take the Oath of Amnesty and that the current residents would be assigned other quarters. Fortunately, John left Johnson's Island before he had to move to more uncomfortable quarters.

In *War Memoranda*, John did not dwell on the lack of food. He never mentioned eating rats, although his outline contained a line "rats, soup and salt." His letters were censored so he could not complain and of course, he would never tell his mother that he was starving. He talked about his prison experiences to some family members when he first returned home. Grace Brown Elmore (1839-1912), John's first cousin, wrote in her diary on May 15, 1865:

John Taylor has gotten back from prison, what a different return had we been successful. He tells the same dreadful story of men being wantonly shot, and deprived of even the necessary amount of drinking water or food. He says they had three small loaves of bread for the day or one loaf large enough to divide into three slices and the only way to resist temptation of satisfying the present hunger was to put the bread for the next meal out of sight (SCL, Grace B. Elmore Diary, 99).

Rats seemed to have been a popular food, and John told his sons that he ate rats in prison. Fellow prisoner Angus Brown said, "The only delicacy we could get was rats" (Brooks, 497). Many other Johnson's Island prisoners wrote of how bad the food was, how hungry they were, and how good rats tasted. Also, there was so much filth around the latrines that the rat population remained large. John Taylor's messmate James F. Crocker of Virginia when presenting his *Prison Reminiscences* in 1904 described dinner at Johnson's Island.

My room-mates and messmates were, Captains John S. Reid, of Eatonton, Ga., and R. H. Isbell, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., and Lieutenants James W. Lapsley, of Selma, Ala., and John Taylor, of Columbia, SC.

When I first reached Johnson's Island I found that the rations given to the prisoners while plain, were good and abundant. Within the prison was a sutler's store from which the prisoners were allowed to buy without restraint. Boxes of provisions and clothing from friends were permitted. To show the liberality with which these were allowed, I received from my dear brother, Julius O. Thomas, of Four Square, Isle of Wight County, Virginia, a box of tobacco which he had kindly sent as a gift to me, through the lines under flag of truce. It was as good to me as a bill of exchange, and I disposed of it for its money value. This condition continued until the issuing of orders, said to be in retaliation of treatment of Federal prisoners at Andersonville. These orders put the prisoners on half rations, excluded the sutler's store from the prison, and prohibited the receipt of all boxes of provisions—with a discretion to the surgeon in charge to allow boxes for sick prisoners. The result of these orders was that the prisoners were kept in a state of hunger—I will say in a state of sharp hunger—all the time. My messmates whom I have before mentioned, were as refined and as well bred as any gentlemen in the South; and they had been accustomed to wealth. We employed a person to cook our rations, and to place them on the table in our room. What then? Sit down and help ourselves? No. We could not trust ourselves to do that. We would divide up the food into five plates as equally as we could do it. Then one would turn his back to the table, and he would be asked; "Whose is this, and this," and so on. And when we had finished our meal there was not left on our plates a trace of food, grease or crumb. Our plates would be as clean as if wiped with a cloth; and we would arise from the table hungry—hungry still—ravenously hungry. We no longer disdained the fat, coarse pork—the fatter, the better. It was sustenance we craved. No longer did we crave desserts and dainties. The cold, stale bread was sweeter to us than any cake or dainty we ever eat at our mother's table. We would at times become desperate for a full meal. Then by common consent we would eat up our whole day's rations at one meal. And then, alas, we would get up with hunger—hungry still. My God, it was terrible. Yet we kept in excellent health. I said it then, and I have said it hundreds of times since, that if I had an enemy whom I wished to punish exquisitely, I would give him enough food to keep him in health with a sharp appetite, but not enough to satisfy his appetite. I would keep him hungry, sharply, desperately hungry all the time. It was a cruel, bitter treatment and that too, by a hand into which Providence had poured to overflowing its most bounteous gifts.

One practical lesson I learned from this experience; that a hungry man can eat any food, and eat it with a relish denied kings and princes at their luxurious boards. It has made me lose all patience with one who says he can not eat this, and can not eat that. Between such an one and starvation there is no food he cannot eat, and eat with the keenest enjoyment (Crocker, 13).

Editorial Note

War Memoranda of John Taylor and the autograph book are published courtesy of John Taylor's grandsons, Edmund R. Taylor and John Taylor. The letters and song book are courtesy of the South Caroliniana Library. All the writings are transcribed exactly as written. Corrections to names, dates, and events are made in the footnotes. Editorial comments are enclosed in braces, thus {}.

Abbreviations

Abt.	about
Aft.	after
b-	born
Bef.	before
d-	died
LVA	Library of Virginia, Richmond.
OR	<i>The War of Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies.</i> This will be referenced as (OR s. v. pt. , page) where s. is series, v. is volume, and pt. is part.
SCDAH	South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia.
SCL	South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia.
SHC	Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
States	Abbreviated with the current two letter abbreviations.

**Columbia 1872**

The Hill House is at the top left corner, and the Capitol is at the bottom right corner.

Library of Congress



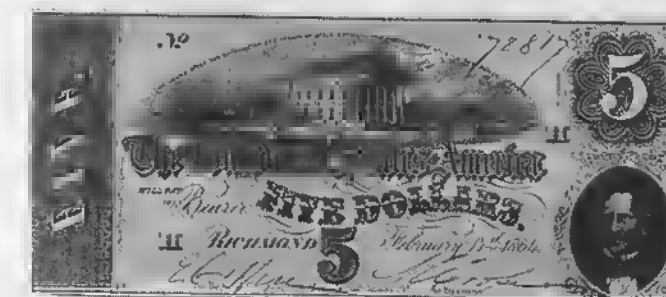
The Hill House painted c. 1859



View of Columbia from the Hill House painted c. 1859
The building at the top right corner is the architect's version of the capitol which was never built.



View from "The Hill" in 2005 showing the capitol



A Confederate five dollar bill signed by Eliza Coffin



A counterfeit bill with Eliza's forged signature



Doorknocker from the Hill House

Hill House courtesy of John Taylor,
counterfeit bill from Slabaugh, p. 66
courtesy of Krause Publications.



Alexander Ross Taylor (1812-1888)
& William c. 1842



Sarah Hayne Taylor (1820-1870) c. 1842



William (1838-1862) c. 1860



John (1842-1912) c. 1860



Alex (1845-1865) c. 1863



Albert (1860-1924) c. 1863

Photos courtesy of
Catherine Taylor Matthews,
Edmund R. Taylor,
John Taylor.



Eliza Coffin Taylor (1843-1919) c. 1880



John Taylor (1842-1912) c. 1880



Alexander Ross Taylor c. 1872



Alexander Ross Taylor & George Coffin Taylor c. 1938
(1871-1949) (1877-1961)



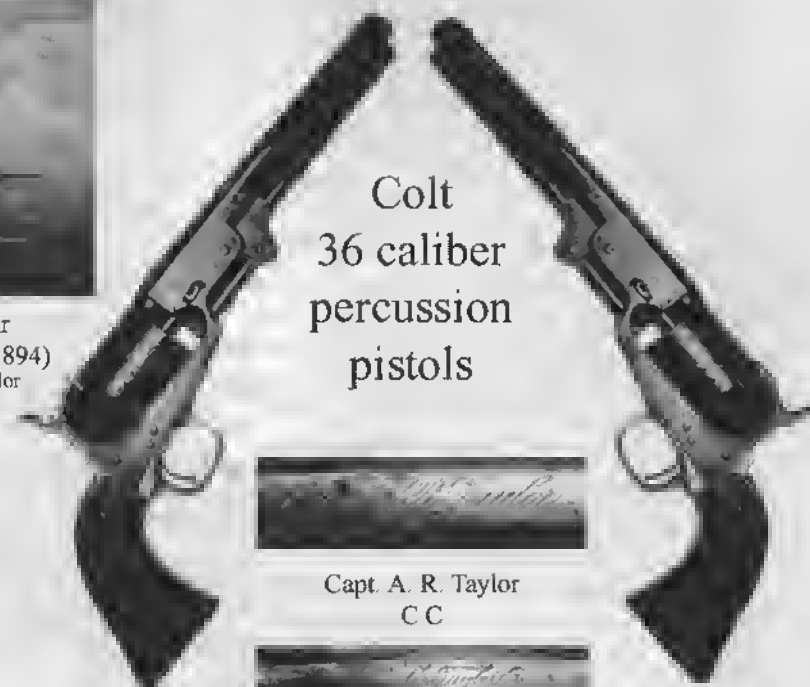
Edmund (George's son) & John (Alexander's son) 2004



Fort Sumter after the war
by Matilda Leverett (1835-1894)
Courtesy of Frances Wallace Taylor



Charleston Light Dragoons
Magnolia Cemetery



Colt
36 caliber
percussion
pistols

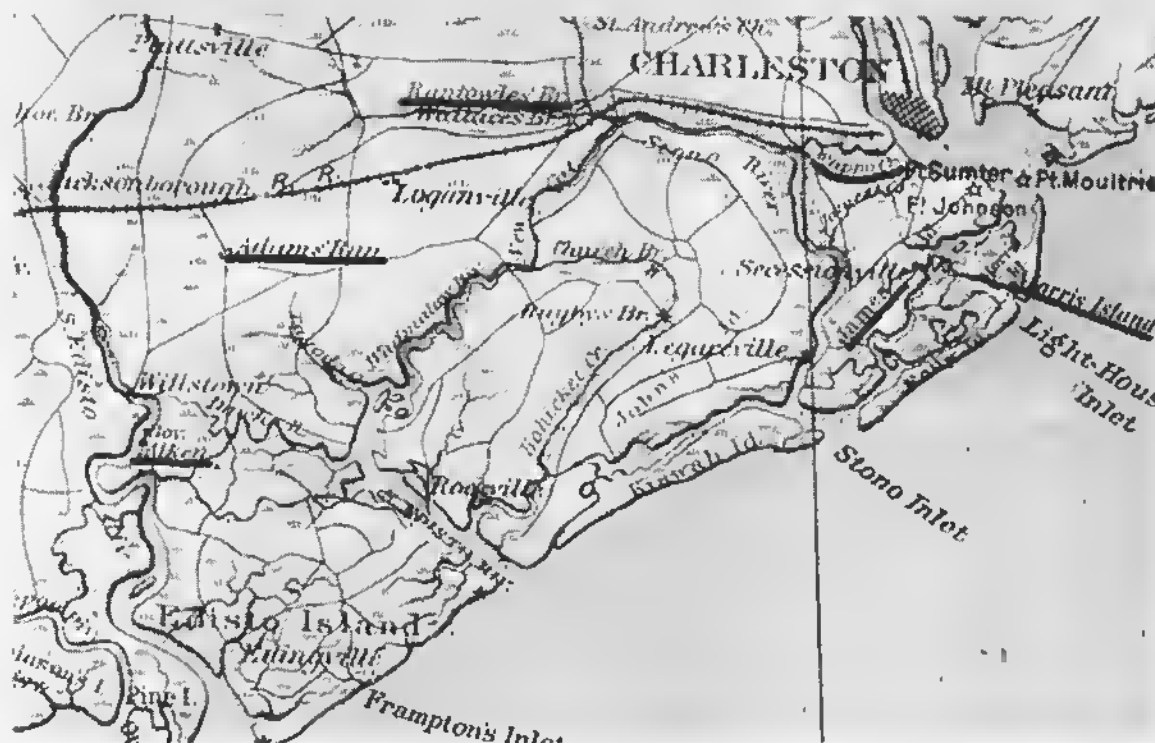


Capt. A. R. Taylor
C C



W. H. Taylor
Columbia
S. C.

Courtesy of John Taylor, Jr.
(C C - Congaree Cavaliers)



South Carolina Coast

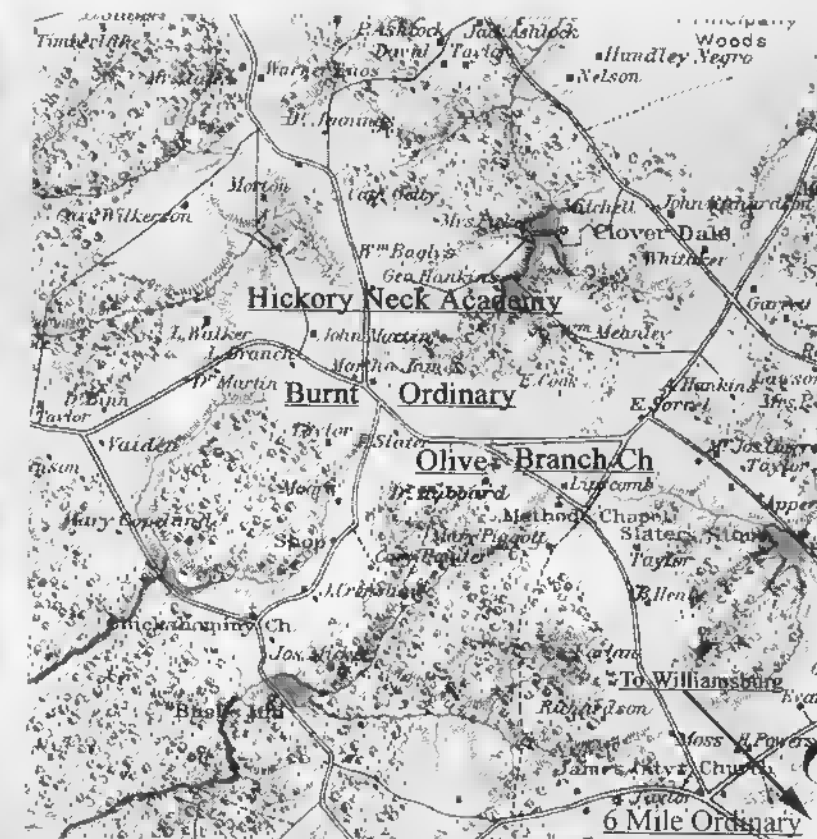
OR Atlas plate 144



The Hankins Family
Hickory Neck Church



The Gedy Family
Olive Branch Church



Hickory Neck Academy and Church

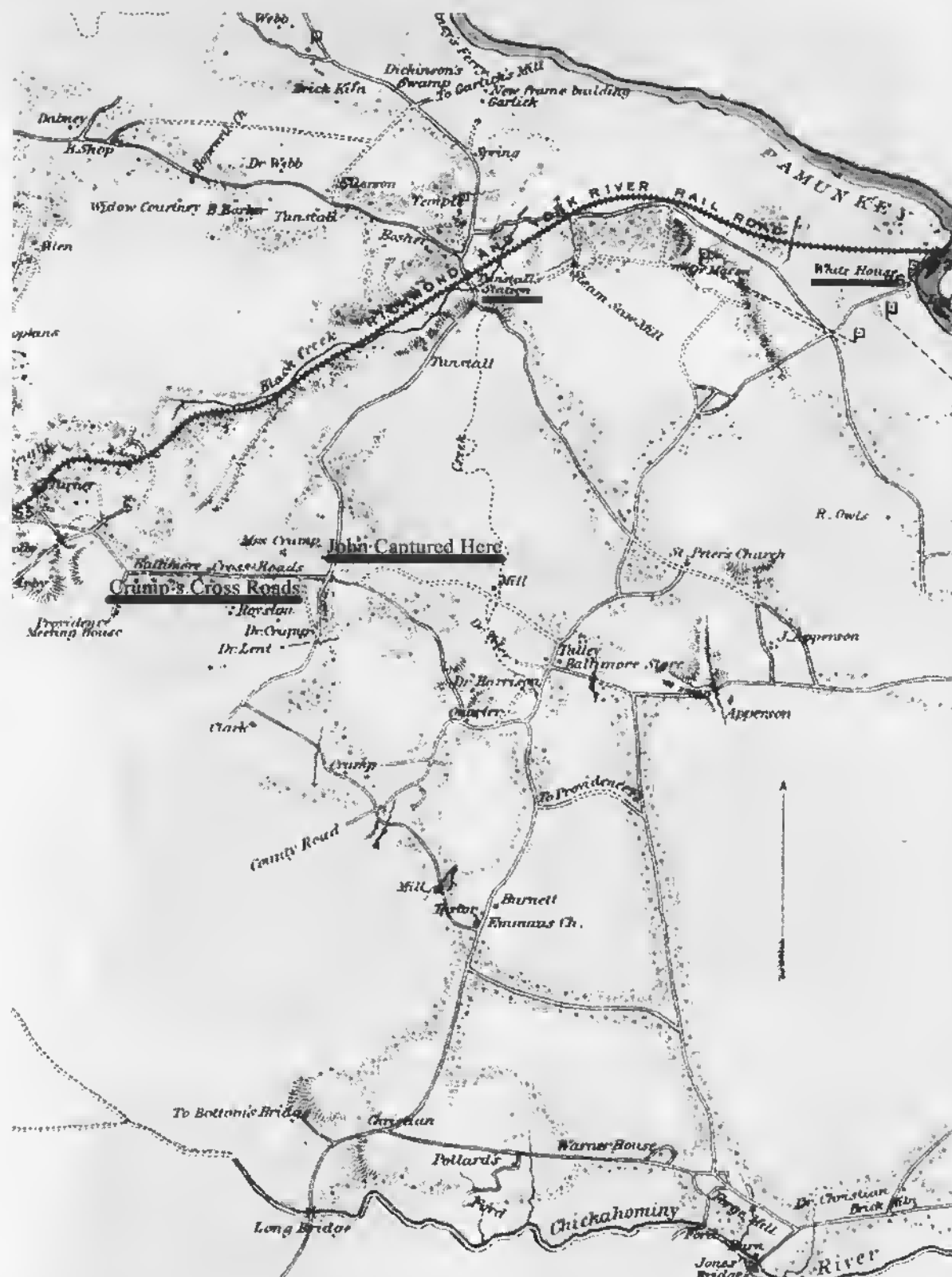


The Hubbard and Cowles Families
James City County, Virginia



Olive Branch Church

map OR Atlas plate 92-3



New Kent County, Virginia

OR Atlas plate 19-1



View from Enon Church toward Haws Shop
Monument to Confederates buried here



Gaines' Mill Battlefield



Old Church



Trench at Petersburg Battlefield

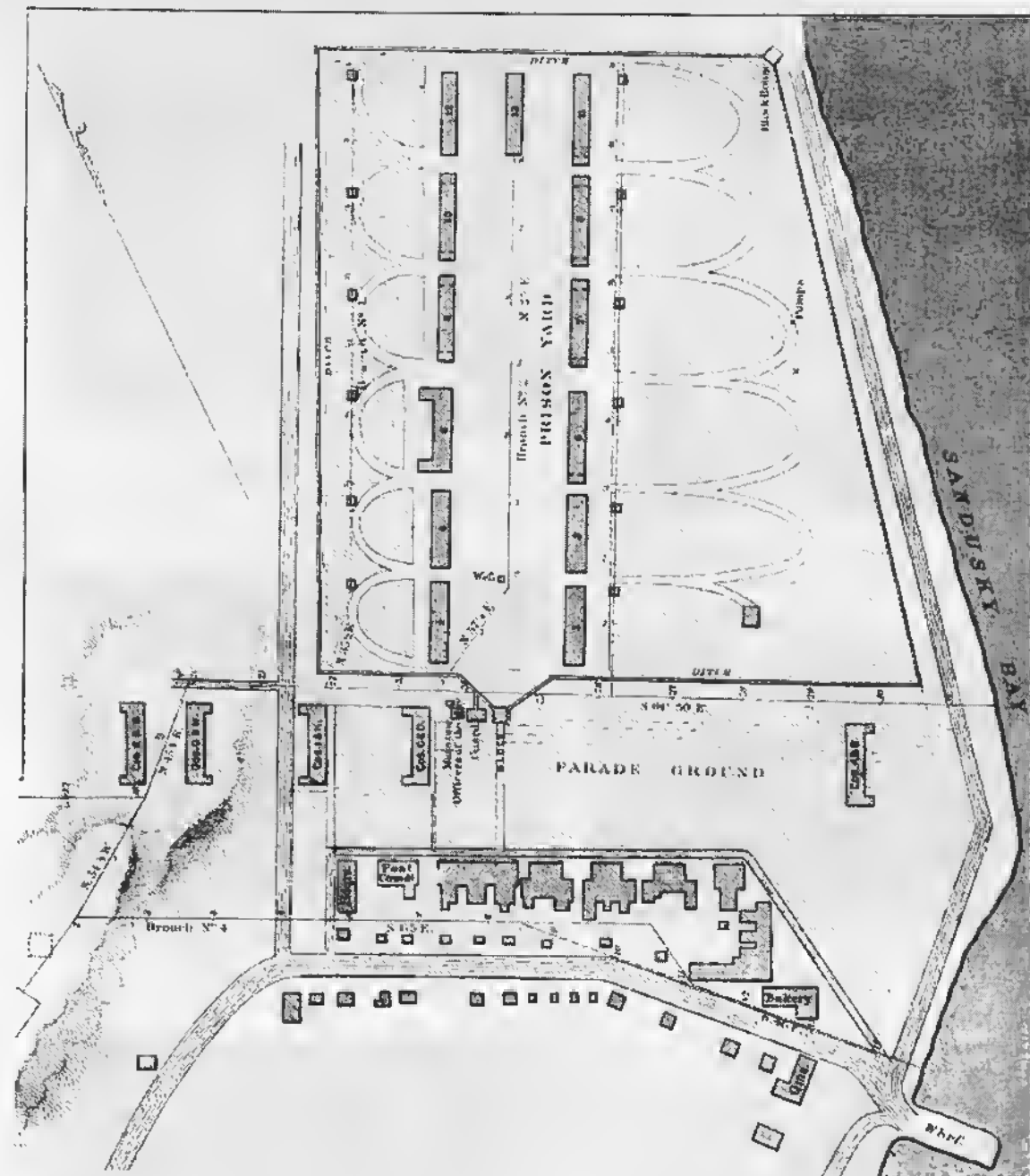


Large mortar at Petersburg Battlefield



Entrance to tunnel under "The Crater"

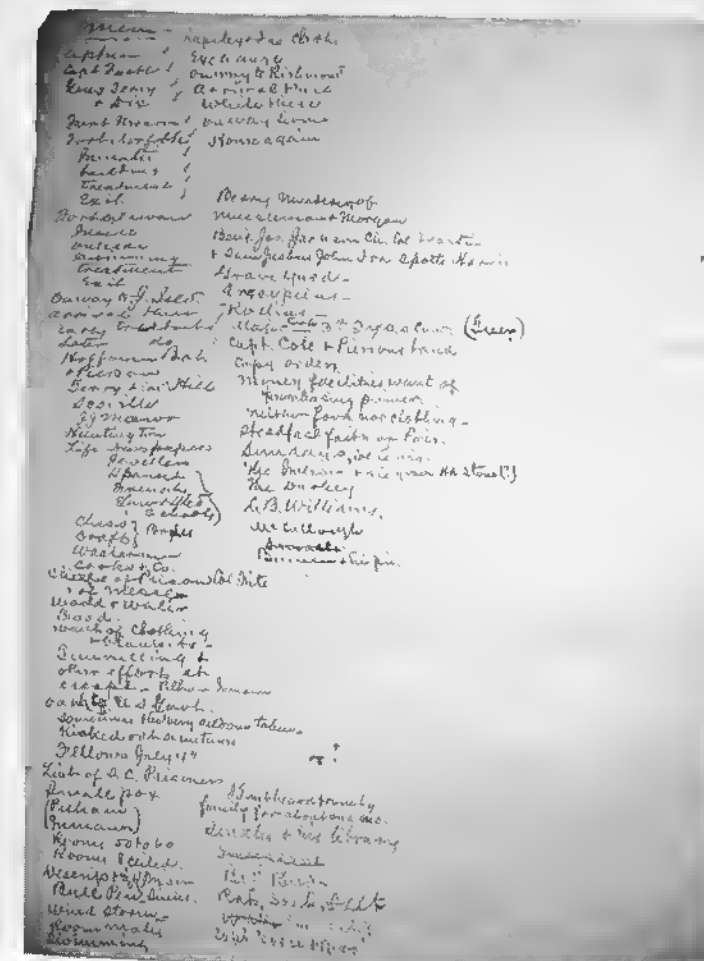
Battlefields near Richmond, Virginia



**A Sketch of the Military Prison
on Johnson's Island, Ohio c. 1864**

OR Atlas plate 66-10

War Memoranda of John Taylor



John's Outline of War Memoranda

Taylor Family Notes

Sarah Martha Hayne and Her Parents

Sarah (M) Hayne Taylor, born July 12th 1820 died June 18th 1870. Married by Rev^d W^m Barnwell¹ May 18th 1837.

W^m Ed. Hayne son of Col. Isaac Hayne the martyr & his wife Elizabeth Hutson daughter of Rev W^m Hutson & Mary his wife (the widow of Isaac Cherdon) & daughter of John Woodward.

Eloisa Davidson Brevard first wife of W^m Ed. Hayne was born June 30, 1785 and died 19th August 1820 aged 37 years, daughter of Alexander & Rebecca Davidson Brevard.

Alexander Brevard was, I think the eldest son of seven sons of the widow Brevard mentioned in Miss Ellett's² "Women of the Revolution" & his wife Rebecca Davidson was a daughter of John & Violet Davidson of Mecklenburg Co. N.C. John Davidson was one of the signers of the Mecklenburg NC Declaration of Independence drawn up by D^r Ephraim Brevard a brother of Alexander Brevard & dated May 20th 1775, from which Mr. Thomas Jefferson seems to have borrowed some thing in drawing up the later (1776) Declar. of Indep. of U. S.

¹ William Hazzard Wigg Barnwell (1806-1863), rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church Charleston, graduated from Harvard in 1824. In 1829, he married Catherine Osborn (1808-1886).

² Elizabeth F. Ellett, *Women of the American Revolution*. New York: Baker & Scribner, 1848.

Taylor Grandparents

John the eldest son of Thomas and Anne his wife born May 4 1770 and died Apr 16th 1832 attended Mt. Zion College at Winnsboro and graduated there and afterwards at Princeton where he divided the first honor in 1790 with Mr. Wm Johnson¹ afterwards a federal Judge US Supreme Court & a man of some distinction. (Mr. Johnson was a native of Charleston S.C.) See "Bench & Bar" by Judge O'Neale²

On March 17th 1793 John married at Camden S.C. Sarah Cantey Chestnut a daughter of Col. John Chesnut of that town. She was born Monday 12th Decem. 1774. John was admitted to the bar June 1st 1793 but his chief business was planting. For many years he was a Representative and Senator in the Legislature of So. Ca. and for about sixteen years a Representative and Senator in the Congress of the United States

A Trustee of the So Ca College, an elder of the Presbyterian Church, a Director of the Theological Seminary, and the first Intendant (mayor) of Columbia his state capital. Defeated as Representative in Congress by the great Wm Lowndes³ he was soon after elected Senator in that body to fill the unexpired term caused by the death of Genl. Sumter⁴ & again defeated by Col Wade Hampton⁵ for the State Senate in October 1826 he was in December of the same year elected Governor of South Carolina.

At the time of his marriage he built as a residence the House on "The Hill" called until now "The Hill" or "The Hill House"⁶

¹ William Johnson (1771-1834), graduated from Princeton in 1790, read the law, served in the South Carolina House of Representatives, and on the United States Supreme Court 1804-1834.

² John Belton O'Neill, *Biographical Sketches of the Bench and Bar of South Carolina*, Charleston: S. G. Courtenay & Co., 1859.

³ William Lowndes (1782-1822), from St. Bartholomew's Parish, South Carolina, a lawyer and planter, was a United States congressman 1811-1822.

⁴ Thomas Sumter (1734-1832), born near Charlottesville, Virginia, moved to South Carolina in 1760, brigadier general in the South Carolina Militia during the Revolution, United States congressman 1789-1792, 1797-1802, and United States senator 1801-1810 when he resigned.

⁵ Wade Hampton II (1791-1858), a planter in South Carolina and Mississippi, a member of the South Carolina Senate 1826-1830, married Anne FitzSimons.

⁶ The Taylor home was built about 1793 on Arsenal Hill, corner of Laurel and Assembly Streets in Columbia. In 1882, the house was sold to Alexander Haskell. The Haskells lived there until February 4, 1893 when it burned.

Alexander Ross Taylor

Alexander Ross born June 8th 1812 in Washington D. C. and died December 30th 1888.

Entered the So. Ca. College in 1828 the sophomore class and graduated in 1830. In 1836 was a member of the Richland Rifle Co. commanded by Capt. B.T. Elmore¹ in the Seminole Florida War.

On May 18th 1837 he married Sarah Martha the third daughter of Wm Ed. Hayne and his first wife Eloisa Davidson Brevard of Mecklenburg County North Carolina.

For one term he represented his District (Richland) in the lower house of the Assembly & his ward (4) in the city Council. Was Captain of the Congaree Mounted Riflemen and commanded them at the time of the siege and capture of Fort Sumter in April 1861.

He raised a second company in November 1861 called the "Congaree Cavaliers" and entered the service as Co. "B" Holcombe Legion Cavalry. The Legion was commanded by Col. P. F. Stevens² and Wm Pinckney Shingler.³

Later on in the war he was Colonel of a Militia Regiment, but they were never in service. After the war he was a member of the Convention.⁴

He was attending his last course of Lectures as a Physician in 1832 when his father Gov. John Taylor died, and he was called upon to take charge of the Planting interest of the Estate which was large. He proved an admirable manager and with the advice and direction of his brother-in-law Col. F. H. Elmore⁵ to whose wise counsel, he worked the Estate out of debt of about \$100,000 and after his Mother's death in 1851 made for himself in ten years a handsome income with a property largely increased in value.

He was withal, extremely liberal with his means, largely charitable, polite to a marked degree to every one of all classes, especially to those whose humbler circumstances might make their pride more sensitive than usual decidedly patriotic, a good type of the Southern gentleman and sincere Christian.

¹ Benjamin Thomas Elmore (1790-1841), son of John and Mary Anne Saxon Elmore, brother of Franklin Harper Elmore, comptroller general of South Carolina 1822-1826, married Sarah Aurora Brevard. He died of bilious fever in 1841.

² Peter Fayssoux Stevens (1830-1910), colonel Holcombe Legion, born in Florida, an 1849 graduate of The Citadel, superintendent of The Citadel 1859-1861, resigned to help organize the Holcombe Legion. He entered the ministry and became a bishop in the Reformed Episcopal Church in 1879.

³ William Pinckney Shingler (1827-1869), a signer of the Ordinance of Secession, colonel Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion, son of James Simon and Eleanor Bradwell Shingler, was a rice planter and a banker.

⁴ The South Carolina Constitutional Convention of 1865.

⁵ Franklin Harper Elmore (1799-1850), John Taylor's uncle, son of John and Mary Anne Saxon Elmore, husband of Harriet Chesnut Taylor, graduated from South Carolina College in 1819, was admitted to the bar in 1821. A member of the United States Congress 1836-1839, he was appointed to the United States Senate to finish the term of John C. Calhoun in April 1850 and died in May 1850.

William Hayne Taylor

W^m Hayne Taylor¹ was in Europe in 1860, but believing war near at hand came home at once to take his part in it, (a duty so many European absentees failed to perform) tho' death² itself stood in the pathway Duty pointed out as the only way. He became a Lieutenant in the Congaree Troop Capt Thomas Taylor,³ of the Hampton Legion Cavalry & was its acting adjutant. He died of brain fever near Grove Church near Fredericksburg V^a when the Army was falling back from Manassas towards the Peninsula on April 18th 1862 at Mrs Skinkers⁴ near Grove Church some miles from Fredericksburg. D^r Henry M Clarkson⁵ of Col^a married Miss Sayre Mrs Skinkers niece (I think she was) but of her house certainly. My Brother was buried in the Skinker family lot & his grave was cared for by the good women of the house, until the remains were bro't home in 1873. D^r Clarkson kindly taking charge & shipping them by Express.

¹ William Hayne Taylor (1838-1862) was the oldest child of Alexander Ross and Sarah Martha Hayne Taylor.

² Mary Chesnut wrote in May 1862:

Willie Taylor before he left home for the army, fancied one day—day remember not night—he saw Albert Rhett standing by his side. He recoiled from the ghost in horror. "You need not do that Willie, you will soon be as I am." Willie rushed into the next Room to tell them what had happened and fainted. It had a very depressing effect on him. The other day he died in Virginia (Woodward, 342). {Albert Rhett (1838-1860), Willie's first cousin, son of Albert Moore and Sarah Taylor Rhett, died of consumption in May 1860.}

³ Thomas Taylor (1824-1903), John Taylor's first cousin once removed, captain later major Cavalry Battalion Hampton Legion, son of Benjamin Franklin and Sally Coles Taylor, married Sally Elmore in 1856. After the war, Taylor, a farmer, lived in Columbia.

⁴ The family of James Skinker of Skinker's Neck, Caroline County, Virginia.

⁵ Henry Mazyck Clarkson (1835-1915), surgeon Confederate Army, son of Thomas Boston and Sarah Heriot Clarkson of Charleston, received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1859, and practiced medicine in Columbia. In 1863, he married Jean Irvin Sayre of Virginia. In 1880, Clarkson was practicing medicine in Haymarket, Virginia.

John Taylor

John (son of Alex Ross & Sarah Hayne Taylor) Entered So Ca College 1859 Dec. Left in 1861 to join the Confederate Army—Was in Charleston at the fall of Fort Sumter with the "Congaree Mounted Riflemen" which soon afterwards disbanded.

The Congaree Troop under Capt Thomas Taylor was composed of many of its members & some of its officers—

John followed the Students Co. Dawkins Rogers¹ Captain for a few weeks & then joined the Congaree Cavalier legion with his father as its Captain then Co. B. Holcombe Legion Cav.—afterwards it became Co. D.

of the 7th SC Cavalry² Gary's³ Brig & W H F Lees⁴ Div. Alexander C. Haskell⁵ as its Colonel. John was a Corporal, a First Sergeant, a Lieutenant & Acting Adjt of 1 Battalion, and then 1st Lieut—Campbell R Frost⁶ & John D Caldwell⁷ having succeeded Capt Alex R Taylor as Captains.

Was captured at night while endeavoring to withdraw by order a picket of a Lieut E P. Chalmers⁸ & three men from a dangerous position not far from the White House⁹ on the Pamunkey River near its junction with the Mataponi where they form the York in V^a on July 2^d 1863—was imprisoned in the Norfolk jail then used as a prison—for about 5 days, then at Fort Delaware for about 2 weeks, then at Johnson's Island, Ohio in Lake Erie near Sandusky City, from about 20 July '63 to March 14/65. Left the Island that day ice in large quantities still blocking the Bay and barely allowing the slow passage of the small steamer to Sandusky reached Richmond V^a on Mch 22^d—& leaving there on 24th reached Columbia SC on Mch 29th 1865. He had a 30 day parole from General Ewell¹⁰ in Richmond, but before the 30 days had rolled by Lee had surrendered and the Cause so loved, and for which so many had suffered even unto the end & so many had endured all things so cheerfully.

This John Taylor was married on November 24th 1870 to Eliza Mathewes¹¹ the second daughter of the late George Mathewes Coffin & Sarah Lewis his wife.

Their son Alexander Ross Taylor was born December 27th 1871 and George Coffin Taylor was born on March 26th 1877.

¹ Elijah Dawkins Rogers (1840-1862), private Company A 18th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, son of James and Nancy Hensley Dawkins Rogers, was killed August 30, 1862 at the battle of 2nd Manassas.

² The Holcombe Legion, named for Lucy Holcombe Pickens, wife of Governor Francis Pickens, was established November 1861. In March 1864, the five companies of the Holcombe Legion Cavalry Battalion consolidated with five independent companies to form the 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry. Holcombe Legion Company A became Company I, Company B became D, Company C became E, Company D became C, and Company E became H.

³ Martin Witherspoon Gary (1831-1881), brigadier general Confederate Army, son of Thomas Reeder and Mary Anne Porter Gary of Cokesbury, South Carolina, refused to surrender at Appomattox saying, "South Carolinians never surrender" (Cyclopedia, 204). He and some of his men escorted Jefferson Davis and his cabinet to Cokesbury, and one of Davis's last cabinet meetings was held at Gary's mother's house. Gary was a lawyer in Edgefield, South Carolina.

⁴ William Henry Fitzhugh Lee (1837-1891), major general Confederate Army, son of Robert E. and Mary Custis Lee, wounded at Brandy Station June 9, 1863, captured at the home of his father-in-law during the battle at South Anna Bridge June 26, 1863 by the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and sent to Fort Lafayette, New York. He was the owner of the White House plantation in New Kent County, Virginia.

⁵ Alexander Cheves Haskell (1839-1910), colonel 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Charles Thomson and Sophia Cheves Haskell, graduated from South Carolina College. He had many professions including law professor, judge, and banker. Haskell married twice—Rebecca Singleton (d-1862) and Alice Alexander (1848-1910).

⁶ Campbell R. Frost (d-1864), captain Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry).

⁷ John D. Caldwell (d-1872), captain Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), was killed September 1872 in Columbia trying to stop a feud between Judge S. W. Melton and C. W. Montgomery the president pro-tem of the Senate.

⁸ E. P. Chalmers, 2nd lieutenant Company C Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company E 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry). In 1880, he was clerk of court for Newberry County, South Carolina.

⁹ The White House, W. H. F. Lee's plantation on the Pamunkey River in New Kent County, Virginia, home of Martha Washington, was occupied by General George B. McClellan in May 1862, and the house was burned. John Taylor was taken to the White House when he was captured.

¹⁰ Richard Stoddert Ewell (1817-1872), lieutenant general Confederate Army, Commander of the Department of Richmond June 1864-April 1865, born in Washington, DC, resigned from the United States Army to join the Confederate Army in 1861. He lost a leg at 2nd Manassas August 1862, was captured at Sailor's Creek April 1865, sent to Fort Warren in Boston, and released August 1865.

¹¹ Eliza Mathewes Coffin (1843-1919), daughter of George Mathewes and Sarah Lewis Simons Coffin of Charleston, worked as a "treasury girl" in Columbia signing Confederate money for the register, Robert Tyler.

Congaree Mounted Rifle Company

The Congaree Mounted Rifle Company was organized not long after our return from Cashier's Valley¹ in October 1860—at the suggestion of Cheves M^cCord² & my brother W^m Hayne Taylor & others that this form of organization would in case of war well serve the purposes for which soldiers would be needed. My father Alexander R. Taylor was elected Captain of the Co. and if I remember aright John Meighan³ was 1st Lieut. Frank Hampton⁴ 2nd Lieut. and Charles S. Venable⁵ then a Professor of the S.C. College was elected 3rd Lieut. Venable was afterwards on the staff of Genl Robert E. Lee and is now I believe in 1896 alive and a professor at the University of V^a where he was an assistant professor before he came to the SC College about 1857 or 1858.

This Congaree Mounted Rifle Co. had in it many men as privates who afterwards were quite prominent, among these Gen Wade Hampton⁶ & Gen Jno. S. Preston,⁷ Major Thomas Taylor, Capt. Cheves M^cCord, C R Bryce,⁸ John T. Rhett⁹ & others. My father bought personally Joslyn breech loading rifles for this Co.

The Co. was called out at the first siege of Fort Sumter in April 1861 & was out about three weeks. They occupied several houses on Spring St. in Charleston not far from the new Bridge over the Ashley—drilled every day on the race track & picketed at Wappoo Cut & other points watching for gun boats and a land attack.

After this service this Co. was only for a few weeks kept together many of its members scattering in almost as many directions—I was with it from first to last—a remnant of some size, for it was a large Co. with probably more than one hundred men on its rolls, among them some I might say many, of our wealthiest & most prominent young men—a remnant I say entered into a new organization called now the Congaree Troop—Thomas Taylor as Captain, and as Lieuts Campbell R. Bryce, James Macfie¹⁰ and W^m H. Taylor they joined the Hampton Legion Cavalry & this Cav. was in turn absorbed in the 2nd SC Cavalry M C Butler's¹¹ regiment—I was not with this Congaree Troop.

In the fall of 1861 when Port Royal fell I was in accordance with my father's wish back at the SC College, but the Students had their own Co. and with them I went down to Charleston where we camped upon the Race Course and drilled constantly for a while. My father had in the mean time raised still another Company called the Congaree Cavaliers, and I left the College Co. not regularly mustered into serving, to join him and his Co. late in Nov. 1861. The 21st this Co. was mustered in.

My father Alexander Ross Taylor was its Captain and Edmund Davis,¹² Campbell R. Frost & Rob^t H Goodwyn Jr¹³ its Lieutenants. This Co. was one of the Holcombe Legion Cavalry Col. P. F. Stevens and was lettered as Co. "B"—Lt Col W^m Pinckney Shingler commanded this Cavalry, then four Co.s T V Walsh's¹⁴ Sumter Co. I G M^cKissick's¹⁵ Union Co. & Spearman's¹⁶ Co from Laurens & Newberry—after we went to Virginia in Aug. 1862 we were joined by James Doby's¹⁷ Co from Kershaw—later still the 7th So Ca Cavalry was formed of these five Cos & several others of W^m L Trenholms¹⁸ Battalion I believe—and Alexander C Haskell made Colonel of the regiment which was with the Hampton Legion (Infantry) mounted under Col T. M. Logan¹⁹ & a V^a Regiment put in one Brigade under Mart. W. Gary.

¹ Cashiers Valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina where wealthy South Carolina planters had summer homes.

² Langdon Cheves McCord (1842-1863), captain Company H Infantry Regiment Hampton Legion, son of David J. and Louisa Cheves McCord of Columbia, was mortally wounded at 2nd Manassas August 1862, and died January 23, 1863.

³ John Meighan (1817-1901), captain Company C 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, born in Ireland, came to Columbia in 1845, was employed by G. M. Thompson Company-Boots and Shoes.

⁴ Frank Hampton (1829-1863), lieutenant colonel 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry under his brother General Wade Hampton, was mortally wounded at Brandy Station, Virginia June 9, 1863. Hampton, a large slave and land owner, married Sally Baxter (1833-1862) of New York. At the time of his death, he owned 198 slaves, and his plantation was worth over \$300,000.

⁵ Charles Scott Venable (1827-1900), lieutenant colonel and assistant adjutant general for Robert E. Lee, born in Virginia, attended Hampden-Sydney, taught mathematics and astronomy at the University of Georgia and South Carolina College. In 1865, he went to the University of Virginia and taught there for thirty years.

⁶ Wade Hampton III (1818-1902), promoted to lieutenant general Confederate Army in February 1865, son of Wade II and Ann FitzSimons Hampton, graduated from South Carolina College in 1836, a wealthy planter in South Carolina and

Mississippi, governor of South Carolina 1876-1879, and United States senator 1879-1891. He married twice—Margaret Preston in 1838 and then Mary McDuffie in 1858.

⁷ John Smith Preston (1809-1881), brigadier general Confederate Army, son of Francis Smith and Sarah Buchanan Campbell Preston of Virginia, attended Hampden-Sydney, the University of Virginia, and Harvard. He moved to South Carolina in 1840 to practice law. He married Caroline Hampton (1807-1883). Preston was elected a member of the Secession Convention in July 1861 to replace a member who had died, appointed superintendent of the Bureau of Conscription in Richmond in 1863, and promoted to brigadier general in June 1864.

⁸ Campbell R. Bryce (1817-1867), 1st lieutenant Company D Cavalry Battalion Hampton Legion, son of John Bryce of Columbia, was a member of the South Carolina Legislature. In the summer of 1865, he was authorized by the Venezuelan government to issue 2,500 acre land grants in Venezuela to citizens of South Carolina. He died in New York City August 14, 1867 on his way home from South America.

⁹ John Taylor Rhett (1836-1892), John Taylor's first cousin, brevet 2nd lieutenant Company H 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Albert Moore and Sarah Taylor Rhett, a lawyer, was mayor of Columbia 1884-1890. He married twice—Hannah Cheves McCord (1843-1872) and then Emily Barnwell (1850-1887).

¹⁰ James P. Macfie (1831-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company D Cavalry Battalion Hampton Legion, later captain Company H 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, was the son of James and Catherine McGregor Macfie. Macfie was a farmer in Fairfield County, South Carolina. His wife was named Agnes. William Hayne Taylor wrote to his mother on April 4, 1862, two weeks before he died, giving his opinion of James Macfie who was being considered for captain, "Yet this man Macfie, a dunce at school, a dolt at college, one who can not speak grammatically, who can not manoeuvre a squadron in the field, who can not drill a company without making as many mistakes as he gives commands, who does not hesitate to violate orders, when he thinks proper, but is actually one of the best officers in the Battalion" (SCL folder 14-787).

¹¹ Matthew Calbraith Butler (1836-1909), promoted to major general Army of Northern Virginia in September 1864, born in Greenville, South Carolina, son of William and Jane Perry Butler, nephew of Andrew Pickens Butler and the Commodores Oliver Hazard Perry and Matthew Calbraith Perry, graduated from South Carolina College, was admitted to the bar in 1857. In 1858, he married Maria Pickens (1836-1900) daughter of Governor Francis W. Pickens. He lost his right foot at Brandy Station, Virginia in June 1863. Butler was a United States senator 1877-1894. In 1898, he was appointed major general of United States Volunteers in the Spanish American War.

¹² Edmund Davis, 1st lieutenant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry).

¹³ Robert Howell Goodwyn, Jr. (d-1864), 2nd lieutenant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion, son of Robert Howell and Charlotte Thomson Goodwyn and brother of Mary Goodwyn Elmore, was an employee of the Bank of South Carolina before the war.

¹⁴ Thomas Vardell Walsh (1833-1906), captain Company A Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (lieutenant colonel 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), resigned due to illness. He was a lawyer and probate judge in Sumter County, South Carolina. He married Mary Ellen David (1832-1908).

¹⁵ Isaac G. McKissick (1826-Aft. 1880), captain Company D Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (lieutenant colonel 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), was a lawyer in Union, South Carolina. His wife was named Sallie.

¹⁶ John Robert Spearman (1841-1922), cadet private Company A South Carolina Military Academy, captain Company C Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company E 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), from Newberry County, South Carolina, was a farmer after the war.

¹⁷ James L. Doby, captain Company E Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company H 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), did not surrender but left Appomattox with General Gary.

¹⁸ William Lee Trenholm (1836-1901), captain Trenholm's Company Rutledge Mounted Riflemen and Horse Artillery, (Company B 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), lieutenant colonel 19th Battalion South Carolina Cavalry, from Charleston, was United States comptroller of the currency 1886-1889.

¹⁹ Thomas Muldrup Logan (1840-1914), lieutenant Company A Infantry Regiment Hampton Legion, was promoted to brigadier general in February 1865. Born in Charleston, he graduated from South Carolina College in 1860. He was wounded at Gaines' Mill in June 1862 and at Riddle's Shop, Virginia June 1863. After the war, he became a railroad developer and an investor in Virginia and New York.

Service on the South Carolina Coast

The Congaree Cavaliers Co. "B" of the Holcombe Legion Cavalry Col P. F. Stevens (since Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church) was with the other three Cos of Cavalry after reaching Charleston sent to the Thompson Farm some five miles from Charleston across the Ashley River—while there the big fire that burned such a large portion of the city occurred, but the officers would not give their men leave to absent themselves so as to go to the city and assist friends, because they said they feared that possibly an attack on Charleston would be made—there had been some rockets sent up by the Federal fleet, & I suppose this gave some foundation for their supposition.

Near Rantowles Bridge we spent Christmas of 1861—A Hamilton Wolfe¹ had a splendid wild turkey for dinner & many dined most sumptuously that day with him—I among the number. Mr. Edward Peronneau² lived not very far from our camp & he & some others near it were very kind in contributing to the comfort of many of our men while here—on more than one occasion sheep & provisions from the Plantations were made presents to the men.

About the new years beginning we moved to Adams Run about thirty miles from Charleston on the Savannah RR. In this neighborhood in several camps we remained until July 1862—watching gun boats at White Point and Kings Point & other places & also having at times a picket force at Bears Island across the Pon Pon and another at the RR Bridge at Jacksonboro³—Captain Blanding³ had a Battery at Wiltown and Captain McCord another at some point near Church Flats. While at Adams Run the infantry of the Holcombe Legion were camped near us and we were drilled very constantly and practiced charging them quite often.

More than once we made raids on Edisto Island bringing away many Negroes recaptured, and also a great many marsh tackey ponies. We captured two Negroes in uniform and only a few nights before one of our men had been ambushed & killed on Edisto Island near Watts Cut—these two Negroes I was told were hung soon after our return to camp & their delivery to the Infantry. Gen. N G Evans⁴ was our Brigadier General. We reached Edisto Island by way of Jehassee Island, Gov Aiken's⁵ plantation and Watts Cut a narrow creek separating it from Edisto Island. We remained on the Island three days and two nights on one of our raids about Jan. 1862. I brought into camp a yellow wooden seated arm chair, carrying it probably twelve or fifteen miles upside down the arms of the chair resting on my shoulders and the top of my head just about touching the seat of the chair. I was laughed at for the attempt at the start, but chairs were at a premium in camp and the laugh was on my side when we (the chair & I) arrived safely in camp. James M. Morris⁶ brought back a match chair at the same time.

One day I was out near King's Point with my gun shooting curlews—saw quite a commotion going on at the picket post which was in sight—rode up & found there was a gun boat near by—the pickets had left the house (Mr King's)⁷ & crossed the causeway to the main land—The River or Bay looked most peaceful & the gunboat very harmless as she lay on the still water, & so several of us concluded we would ride out to the house & see the damage done by the shells thrown at our pickets but a short time before—we went & found the pickets had left a nice "fanner" basket of beautifully cooked yam potatoes—just as I asked one of our men who had dismounted to hand me the basket of potatoes we heard the boom of a mortar on board the boat & the shriek & the bursting of a shell over our heads—the man put down the basket but when I urged him to hand it to me he did so—I put it on my head and took it out to the main land in spite of the bursting of a half dozen shells a little beyond us and too high to do us any damage—and I lost not a potatoe—The boat was probably a quarter of a mile from us & shot always too high. I noticed that these shells 10 inches in diameter when passing through the smallest twigs of a plum tree cut the twigs just as small shot at short range from a gun will do. The holes made by these shells were large enough to bury a horse in sometimes.

Nelson's⁸ 7th Battalion was camped near us for a long time & for a short time James'⁹ 3^d Battalion. Columbia men were in both of these commands & we saw something of each other—E R Stokes¹⁰ an old classmate at school & Ben Bates¹¹ also a school mate were with James—and with Nelson was Sligh's¹² & Clyburn's¹³ Cos. Frank Elmore¹⁴ & his brother Albert¹⁵ and W^m Jesse Taylor¹⁶—Willie Mayrant¹⁷—Mally Howell,¹⁸ James Mayrant.¹⁹

About the 20th July 1862 we marched to Summerville (on Sunday), were delayed there some what & came to Columbia by Rail, where we spent about one week camped not far from the Poor House. Lipscombs²⁰ Co. of the 2^d Cavalry was then camped at Camp Hampton—George Taylor²¹ was one of its members.

Co. B went by RR to Charlotte N. C. I had been left behind to arrest & bring on several men who were not prompt in reporting the morning that the Command left here, so with them I left Columbia on July 31st & reached Charlotte that evening.

In one or two days we rode out of Charlotte on our way to Richmond by way of Concord, Salisbury, Lexington, Greensboro, Danville and Farmville. We reached Richmond on August 22^d 1862.

¹ Alexander Hamilton Wolfe (1840-1907), 1st sergeant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), son of Joseph Archibald and Caroline Kaigler Wolfe of Lexington County, South Carolina, attended Wofford College and the University of Virginia. He was wounded at Cold Harbor June 1864. Wolfe's obituary states, "One of his comrades in arms, Mr. John Taylor of Columbia in speaking of Mr. Wolfe said, 'Ham Wolfe was a gallant soldier' " ("15th Regimental Report," 4). Wolfe married Minerva L. Zeigler and was a farmer in Orangeburg County, South Carolina.

² Edward Peronneau, a large land and slave owner in Colleton County, St. Paul's District, South Carolina.

³ James D. Blanding (1822-Aft. 1880), captain, later colonel 9th Regiment South Carolina Infantry. Blanding was a lawyer in Sumter, South Carolina. His wife was named Lenora.

⁴ Nathan George Evans (1824-1868), brigadier general Confederate Army, a South Carolinian, resigned from the United States Army in 1861. He was in command at James Island, South Carolina in 1862.

⁵ William Aiken (1806-1887), governor of South Carolina 1844-1846, United States Congress 1851-1857, owned a rice plantation on Jhassee Island near Charleston and was one of the largest slave owners in South Carolina.

⁶ James Martin Morris, private Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry).

⁷ Either H. H. King or James King of Colleton County, St. Pauls District, South Carolina, large land and slave owners.

⁸ Patrick Henry Nelson, lieutenant colonel 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry Hagood's Brigade.

⁹ George Strother James (d-1862), lieutenant colonel 3rd Battalion South Carolina Infantry, from South Carolina, a graduate of Erskine Seminary, was killed September 14, 1862 at Fox's Gap, Maryland. The 3rd Battalion, formed in December 1861, was assigned to Kershaw's brigade in November 1862 and fought in most of the major battles of the Army of Northern Virginia.

¹⁰ Ellwood R. Stokes, private Company F 3rd Battalion South Carolina Infantry.

¹¹ O. B. Bates, private Company F 3rd Battalion South Carolina Infantry.

¹² William H. Sligh (1835-Aft. 1880), captain Company C 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry. After the war, Sligh was captain of the penitentiary guards in Columbia. His wife was named Mary.

¹³ William Clyburn (1830-1900), captain Company G 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry, from Kershaw County, South Carolina, was captured at Morris Island July 1863 and sent to Johnson's Island. He was exchanged in February or March 1864. John Taylor's mother wrote on March 16, 1864, "Capt. Clyburn was among the returned prisoners last week." Clerk of Court for Kershaw County, he married Theodosia Reed.

¹⁴ Franklin Harper Elmore, Jr. (1836-1873), John Taylor's first cousin, 1st lieutenant Company C 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry, son of Franklin Harper and Harriet Taylor Elmore, married Mary Goodwyn in 1861. He died of diphtheria in 1873.

¹⁵ Albert Rhett Elmore (1843-1915), John Taylor's first cousin, private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Franklin H. and Harriet Taylor Elmore, married Alexina Jessie Taylor (1842-1918) in 1868. They moved to Alachua, Florida where Elmore was a farmer.

¹⁶ William Jesse Taylor, Jr. (1840-1880), John Taylor's first cousin, lieutenant Company G 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry, was the son of William Jesse and Alexina Jessie Muir Taylor. After the war, he graduated from South Carolina College, married Mary Susan Elmore (1842-1922) in 1869, and became a planter in Mississippi. They returned to South Carolina in 1879 and he died there in 1880.

¹⁷ William Richardson Mayrant (1840-Bef. 1880), sergeant Company C 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry, was the son of Robert Pringle and Frances Guignard Mayrant of Columbia.

¹⁸ Jesse Malachi Howell (Bef. 1835-Aft. 1879), private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Jesse Malachi and Martha Taylor Howell, was a landowner in South Carolina and Mississippi.

¹⁹ James Sanders Guignard Mayrant (1835-1885), private 17th Regiment South Carolina Militia, son of Robert Pringle and Frances Guignard Mayrant of Columbia. He married Emma B. Richardson (Aft. 1847-1913), and they had two daughters.

²⁰ Thomas J. Lipscomb (1833-1908), colonel 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, graduated from South Carolina Medical College in 1857. In 1868, he married Harriet Harrington. Lipscomb was elected superintendent of the state penitentiary in Columbia in 1878.

²¹ George Taylor (1838-1873), John Taylor's first cousin, private Company G 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of William Jesse and Alexina Jessie Muir Taylor, married Rebecca Wycoff in 1860.

Virginia

After a day or two of rest we were sent to Dispatch Station¹ & camped not far from Bottoms Bridge on the Chickahominy, but we left in Richmond Lieut George W Melton² & about twenty five of our best men. Saml. W. Melton³ was one of Gustavus W Smith's⁴ right hand men & these men were detached to serve as couriers for him, he being in command of that Department—Captain Frost was now Captain since reorganization about April 26th—George W. Melton 1st Lieut James H. Wolfe⁵ 2^d Lieut & John D Caldwell 3^d.—My Father had resigned the Captaincy after my brother's death near Fredericksburg V^a—Edmund Davis also had resigned & Robert H. Goodwyn Jr had been beaten by Melton & so Frost was the only one left of the officers who had started out with the Co. I had been defeated by Wolfe for the 2^d Lieuts position & Frost had appointed me 1st or orderly sergeant—Gen P D Cook⁶ our first orderly sergeant having left us being like many others over the age when serving had become obligatory. The "General" as all of us called him was quite a character among us—six feet 2 inches in height weighing 244 pounds, fifty eight years old and having been a peace Brigadier before the war he was looked upon & respected accordingly. As straight as the best one of us and always cheerful, every one a boy to him, he called us all by our given names, was cool & brave as Julius Caesar, tho' no soldier in his ideas of discipline, yet always "high toned kindly old gentleman"—but to resume where I left off the thread—

Captain Frost had consented to the detail of an officer & twenty five picket men and horses because he was told by George W Melton that in a short time Gen Gustavus W. Smith promised to detach Capt Frost & the rest of his Co. to be in his service as couriers just as the first detachment were then serving. I warned Frost that he & the others would never be called for by Smith, but he thought they would. They never were—& after spurring up George Melton many times about it Frost at last by working hard for it got back some of his men—Melton never came back, he received an appointment as Quartermaster first of Robertson's⁷ NC Brigade & then of M C Butler's Division and made I am told a most excellent Q. M. John H. Burgess⁸ & W. W. Anderson⁹ were at Hd. Qrs. at Richmond with Ewell when Richmond was evacuated Apl 1865. On Sept 9/62 we left our camp near Dispatch Station and with a Co. of North Carolinians I think under Capt Long and a Battalion of Virginians in all only about three hundred & fifty men, taking the telegraph road to Williamsburg. We arrived at Barhamsville late in the day & went into camp there giving our horses a good feed, and about ten o'clock at night we saddled up and pushed on down towards Williamsburg at a fairly good pace. We reached the neighborhood of the Yankee picket posts just outside of Williamsburg a little before day break & sat in our saddles until we began to have a little light. Then T. Waites Dinkins¹⁰ of Co. "A" with nine picket men from the Battalion, (W^m T. Thorn¹¹ and Alister (Atche) G Tradewell¹² from our Co.) pushed forward, & as soon as in sight of the picket sentinel charged at a rapid run, dashing into their camp by the time they could mount & capturing in two charges ten or eleven men, more than their whole number (9) —Before the sun rose there was quite a mist & as we caught sight very dimly of a piece of artillery in the large field just on the edge of the town we charged it briskly without hesitation but there were no men with it to defend it, & so it was only an inglorious capture. As we entered Williamsburg the sun was just showing itself above the horizon and the people as we galloped down the Main St yelling, threw up their windows & yelled & waved handkerchiefs & gave us many kindly words of cheer—ladies young & old came to the windows in their night dresses, and were so glad to see friends again that they seemed to forget their costumes—we halted a moment at the end of this street at the Hospital found a man wounded by us a few minutes before & a few sick—but the advance guard reported the enemy in sight on the Yorktown road & we went out to meet them. Our Holcombe Legion Cav, so far had seen no enemy except those in the Gun boat on the coast, & I remember well that some of them, while we were forming line, the Yankee Regiment came three hundred yards in front of us already in line, shot their pistols at the Yankees with many of their muzzles elevated about forty five degrees. However when the charge was ordered away we went every man for himself—fortunately those against whom we fought although keeping order had no pluck as a body, & failed to make a single stand for a mile when we reached their camp. Here they halted facing us, we mixed up terribly but steady.

An old log house and a few trees gave us a mark around which we endeavored to halt & form lines—The officers calling upon their Cos to form & only a few not a fourth of any Co being even together much less as they had started. A. H. Wolfe (Hamilton) of Co. B. rode out in front of these trees & called upon Co B to form lines on him squaring his horse "Stonewall Jackson"¹³ to the front & just as he did so a ball struck him in the forehead, he quivered an instant & fell dead, but his rider was not hurt.

All this time there was a great deal of noise—guns & pistols going as fast as they could be loaded & shot—our men were so slow in forming that the enemy encouraged by some of their officers attempted to charge us & did come to within about forty or fifty yards of us, but altho' mixed up we did not break, but did

our best to fire faster, when they wavered turned & as we dashed down on them fled pell mell as hard as they could go—we followed them about a mile & they never rallied at all—being recalled by the bugle we rode on back to their camp—we burned what we could not bring away, and brought off their wagons fairly loaded with all we thought their teams could well pull. We took our way back to our camp at Dispatch Station about 50 miles back reaching there about ten o'clock that night and having ridden about 82 miles on a stretch since leaving our feeding place at Barhamsville about twenty four hours before. We brought back about one hundred & thirty five horses & about the same number of prisoners, among them the Col & Major of the Regt. wh. was the 5th Pennsylvania—Among the Lieutenants captured was one named Crumlein¹⁴ from Philadelphia I think. I got his saber from him & used it until my capture by men from this same Regt. He was again taken by us in April 1863 when we made another raid on Wmsburg.

We formed many pleasant friendships in this section of the country embracing the counties of Charles City, New Kent, James City, King William, Hanover, King & Queen & several others around about—mostly among the young ladies who were as good & kind & pleasant & generous to us as possible—they often insisted on our taking meals at their houses and rarely if ever would accept pay for it, when as I have seen it since, they could scarcely tell where their next supply was to come to from—they seemed to think of us as their defenders who had left our houses to defend them & their state.

Among my many friends none charmed me more than Miss Willie Jones who lived very near Barhamsville with her brother D^r Burwell Jones¹⁵ a man of family, his sister Miss Lou was also a member of his household—Mrs Coles or Cowles¹⁶ lived on the road to the South of the telegraph road above the Burnt Ordinary which stood where these two roads came together. In her house there were Miss Bettie Miss Trudy Miss Ellen, _____ and Anna Bell—her daughters & her sons in the army were John & Carter & her one son at home at tall young fellow named Peter. Lower down were the Bushes¹⁷ & lower still the Martins Miss Ellen & Miss Hannah¹⁸—the latter was a mighty sweet little body—many pleasant hours were spent talking with these girls—who sang for us or with us, & fed us, & cheered us. Towards Tunstalls were the Brumleys¹⁹ & the Crumps Miss Bettie & Miss Pussy²⁰—Mrs. Webb²¹ & Mrs. Munday—Towards the Hickory Neck Academy²² were the George Hankins,²³ Miss Alice & Miss Harriet & the Geddys²⁴—there was too Mr Dan¹ Hankins,²⁵ the Spencers,²⁶ Miss Bettie Morris, the Hubbards²⁷ and ever so many more.

My friends among our own soldiers were especially W^m Turner Thorn of Chester SC Alister ("Atche") G Tradewell of Columbia, W^m K Thompson²⁸ of Liberty Hill my chums at college, James D. Owens²⁹ of Columbia—these were the nearest in camp with me—John H Burgess of Sumter & W W Anderson detached at Richmond—Kinsler Davis,³⁰ Hamilton Wolfe & many others were also warm personal friends.

On February 7th 1863 we had what we called a skirmish at Olive Branch Church³¹—The Yankees had been running in our pickets & capturing horses too often of late & we wished to pay them back, & so planned to take about one hundred Infantrymen along with us under Col Tabb³²—and our idea was to pretend to run so as to draw them into the hands of the Infantry & then to come back on two sides at once if possible, but our plan miscarried for just as we reached Olive Branch Church our signal gun fired which meant another race was on hand as they thought—and we had no time to arrange well to trap them, but had to take them as they came—We sent out one man John Faucett³³ of Union to meet our picket & tell him to lead them by us if they would follow them, our pickets ran on by us, but the woods were too open for hiding and the leader of their advance guard saw us before any of them but himself were in range of our infantry, turning in his saddle he gave a signal of warning & those behind him never reached the top of the ridge as he had. He their leader was killed by the volley from the Infantry & so was his horse. At this fire our Cavalry charged into the advance guard as they stopped to turn & down the road we sped running into their main body mixed up with them.

The retreat, or almost rout, lasted for four miles to what was known as the six mile ordinary, about 6 miles above Williamsburg. When the Yankees reached this point they saw that only a small party followed them & that they were being so closely pressed by these few that they feared the loss of one of their officers who had been wounded. And so they endeavored to beat them back by a change of front & a charge—but tho' they had some 60 or 70 men against about 25 they failed to move them from where they made their stand & in turning to retreat again we took several prisoners among them Capt Haugomeister³⁴ (I forget the spelling) on his big horse with four white legs—ridden later by Jim Haile³⁵ I think. I was not among the 25 who stood this charge but had been obliged to leave the road to capture a private who was about to take to the woods & lost a few minutes in taking him & turning him over to Bob Welsh³⁶ who lead another prisoner, and as I rose the top of the hill where I could see, Capt Webb³⁷ on Sallie & I on the grey were side by side & quite a number in sight at our backs. We saw what was coming & when the charge was made we were at fullest speed & our coming was in part the cause of the failure of the Yankees charge for we were in about 150 yards of them when they wheeled. We did not follow much further.

Our capture was about 35 men & horses & we killed Lieut Williamson³⁸ of the 5th Penna Cavalry from Philadelphia & three or four of the men including the one killed by the Infantry. Capt. Frost commanded us the Cav. Battⁿ that evening & I as 1st Sergt was the senior officer of the Co. Frost was among those who stood the charge.

William T. Thorn & Alister G. Tradewell ("Atch")³⁹ did much personal service. Atch shot a sentinel when on his first scouting expedition. Atch was riding Frost's one eyed chestnut mare & as he approached the sentinel near New Kent Court House on the Stage (Williamsburg) Road, he was halted, holding his double barrelled gun in readiness he rode steadily on. The sentinel again called to him to halt & then raised his carbine to his shoulder & as he did so Tradewell halted & the two shots were fired in quick succession the sentinel at once retreating. Tradewell could hear the noise of at least a company of Cavalry and quickly withdrew at a walk. He was not followed at all, the Yankee scouting party suspecting a large body of Confederates beat a hasty retreat to the rear—and we heard afterwards that the wounded sentinel died of his wounds.

On another occasion Thorn was in command of some eight or ten men & met a column of Yankee Infantry, who had not yet discovered his party—he placed his men in position about 20 yards from the road lying down behind a log—as the enemy advanced they had two men some 30 yards in their front & Thorn had given orders that no gun should be fired until he fired first, but Bingley Bell⁴⁰ in his excitement cocked his gun so as to click loudly & one of the Yankees in front who was then just opposite Bell in the road heard the click of the lock & faced Thorn's party with gun well in hand prepared to fire but still saw no one. Bell disobeying orders fired at him & missed, & as he fired Tradewells gun followed & the soldier fell to rise no more. They were pushed a little but got out of the way without much trouble.

Thorn shot a yankee not far from a spring near Diaskon Creek Bridge and another on the road firing I think with Tradewell at this last one. Thorn also charged the rear guard of Stoneman's⁴¹ raiding column at a creek near the South Anna with only eight men. The Yankees were tearing up the planks of the bridge at the time & he saw that they could not damage him much because they could not reach him with horses. In this charge recaptured six or seven of our Infantry men who were at home on furlough (parole) & had been taken by Stoneman.⁴²

Tradewell shot & captured a big Dutchman at Cat Tails.⁴³

At the time Chris Hussung⁴⁴ was wounded in King William County, I had been about 8 or 9 miles off from camp on a visit to Miss Jennie (or Ginnie) Martin⁴⁵ & her sister, with my old chum & comrade W^m K Thompson I think it was—we reached camp about 12 o'clock on a Thursday night after about one hours sleep we were roused & ordered to prepare to move at once without rations and were soon on our horses & under way towards King William Co. to see after a Gun boat coming up the Mataponi River—that night we spent in the saddle or by our horses heads on our feet and on Saturday evening the Gun boat having gone back down the river we returned to our camp at Tunstalls Station,⁴⁶ arriving a little before sun down. I told Jesse the colored cook to wake me up when dinner was ready, we had eaten nothing since a dinner tea at a good ladys house (Mrs Hill's) the night before. Then I lay down on a pile of pine straw at the foot of a tree, & when I next remember myself it was Sunday morning & the sun was shining very brightly in my face. I soon sat down to my first food in 36 hours & from Thursday morning until Saturday evening at sun set I had slept only about one hour. It is altogether needless to say that that meal was fully enjoyed, and I felt as well as I ever did in my life.

¹ Dispatch Station, New Kent County, Virginia, a station of the Richmond and York River Railroad.

² George W. Melton (d-1876), 1st lieutenant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), was the son of Samuel and Sarah Davis Melton of Yorkville, South Carolina. A major and quartermaster to General Robertson, he was re-assigned to the staff of General M. C. Butler in May 1864 (OR s.1 v.36 pt.3, 832). After the war he was a business man in Chester, South Carolina. He died of gastric fever in July 1876.

³ Samuel Wycliff Melton (1830-1892), major on the staff of General Gustavus Smith, later assigned to Richmond as assistant adjutant-general. He was the son of Samuel and Sarah Davis Melton of Yorkville, South Carolina. After the war, he was circuit judge of the 5th Judicial Court in South Carolina, attorney general of South Carolina in 1872, and United States district attorney for South Carolina 1881-1885.

⁴ Gustavus Woodson Smith (1822-1896), major general Confederate Army, from Scott County, Kentucky, a West Point graduate and professor, commissioner of streets in New York City, joined the Confederate Army in 1861, Confederate secretary of war November 17-21, 1862.

⁵ James D. Wolfe (1835-1863), 1st lieutenant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion, son of Joseph Archibald and Caroline Kaigler Wolfe of Lexington County, South Carolina, died in 1863 of illness.

- ⁶ Phillip D. Cook, 1st sergeant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion.
- ⁷ Beverly Holcombe Robertson (1827-1910), brigadier general Confederate Army, from Amelia County, Virginia, resigned from the United States Army in 1861 to enter the Confederate Army. In 1880, he was an insurance agent living in Washington, DC.
- ⁸ John H. Burgess, orderly Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry).
- ⁹ William W. Anderson, private Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry).
- ¹⁰ Thomas Waites Dinkins (1838-Bef. 1880), 1st sergeant Company A Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (captain and assistant quartermaster Company I 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), son of T. J. and Esther Dinkins of Sumter County, South Carolina.
- ¹¹ William Turner Thorn (1840-1879), lieutenant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (2nd lieutenant Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), 1st lieutenant Company E 13th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, wounded at 2nd Manassas, was the son of William and Martha McCortey Thorn of Kershaw, South Carolina. A farmer in Blackstock, South Carolina, he married Frances Douglass in 1866.
- ¹² Alister G. Tradewell (b-Abt. 1844), sergeant and scout Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), son of James D. and Elizabeth Boatwright Tradewell of Columbia.
- ¹³ A. H. Wolfe was paid \$225 for the horse that was killed September 9, 1862 at Williamsburg (SCDAH film CW 0915).
- ¹⁴ Washington Crumlein or Crumline, 2nd lieutenant Company L 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry.
- ¹⁵ The household of Burwell Jones (b-1834), a merchant and farmer of New Kent County, Virginia, included his wife Harriett (b-1842), several children, his sisters Maria L. (b-1844) and Willie (b-1846), and physician Vernon Jones (b-1830).
- ¹⁶ The family of Drusilla Cowles (b-1812), James City County, Virginia included Anna Bell, Bettie (b-1835), Carter (b-1843), Ellen (b-1848), John (b-1841), Peter (1844-1929), and Trudy.
- ¹⁷ The family of William Bush (b-1801), a farmer of James City County, Virginia.
- ¹⁸ Ellen (b-1839) and Hannah (b-1844), daughters of John Martin (b-1809), a farmer of James City County, Virginia.
- ¹⁹ George T. Brumley (b-1824), a farmer of New Kent County, Virginia.
- ²⁰ Bettie and Pussy Crump, New Kent County, Virginia.
- ²¹ Mary A. Webb (b-1795), wife of Henry Webb (b-1792), New Kent County, Virginia.
- ²² Hickory Neck Academy, James City County, Virginia, was built about 1740. It was an Episcopal Church until 1784. In 1825, it was remodeled and used as a public school. In 1917, the building again became an Episcopal Church.
- ²³ George Hankins (1800-1874), a farmer of James City County, Virginia, his wife Mary Savage Hankins (1812-1897), and daughters Alice (b-1838) and Harriet (b-1840).
- ²⁴ The family of George Geddy (1824-1887), a farmer of James City County, Virginia and his wife Lucy Elizabeth Henley Geddy (1823-1906).
- ²⁵ Daniel Hankins (b-1801), a farmer of James City County, Virginia.
- ²⁶ William Spencer (b-1805), a farmer of James City County, Virginia.
- ²⁷ Charles M. Hubbard (b-1808), a physician of James City County, Virginia.
- ²⁸ William K. Thompson (1842-Aft. 1880), private Company E Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company H 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry). After the war, he was a farmer in Flat Rock, Kershaw County, South Carolina. His wife was named Nina.
- ²⁹ James Douglas Owens (1841-1864), private Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion.
- ³⁰ John Kinsler Davis (1833-1902), sergeant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion, then served under General Gustavas W. Smith in Virginia, son of Thomas and Ellen Kinsler Davis, married Sarah Kaigler. Davis, a teacher, was in the South Carolina Legislature 1889-1890. He lived in Sandy Run, Lexington County, South Carolina.
- ³¹ Skirmish at Olive Branch Church, Virginia, February 7, 1863.

Union Reports

Major-General DIX, Fort Monroe.

No. 2. Report of Major Christopher Kleinz, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry to
CAMP OF FIFTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY, Near Williamsburg, February 8, 1863.
COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report: That during your absence yesterday from the regiment - the command having been turned over to me by you before leaving - three deserters from enemy came into our lines and delivered themselves to our pickets. They stated that several more were outside

who desired to come in, but in consequence of the enemy having sent out patrols for the purpose of discovering and arresting them they were afraid to venture. Shortly afterward two other deserters came in and delivered themselves up, and who corroborated the statement of the others, saying furthermore that 16 of their men likewise disposed were at Walker's Mill, 3 miles beyond and to the right of our pickets, on the Richmond road; also that they had heard of 20 of their own men patrolling in front of our lines and in the immediate neighborhood in search of deserters, and of whom the men at Walker's Mill were in fear. I deemed it necessary to send out a scout to ascertain if there was any truth in these statements. Accordingly a squadron, composed of Companies L and M, numbering 84 men, and commanded by Captain Faith, was sent out with instructions to take the road leading to Walker's Mill to the right at the Richmond road picket post, and from Walker's Mill to proceed to Six Mile Ordinary, and then return to camp via the Richmond road; in the event of meeting with the enemy's patrol, as previously mentioned, to capture them if possible. I have been informed that Captain Faith proceeded as far as Six Mile Ordinary without discovering any trace of the enemy. He then ordered his advance guard to proceed 300 or 400 yards beyond, on the Richmond road, and halt. This the advance guard proceeded to do, when they discovered a small patrol in their front. The lieutenant commanding advance guard sent back to Captain Faith for orders. Captain Faith, in violation of orders received from me, ordered the lieutenant to charge and capture them if possible, and that he would support him.

The enemy fled on the approach of our men, and after being pursued for 2 miles they took a road leading to the right, our advance guard in hot pursuit. At this point Captain Faith threw out another advance guard, upon the direct road, endeavoring to cut off the enemy's retreat. Another body of rebels, being either infantry or dismounted cavalry, and secluded by a ravine along this part of the road, allowed our advance guard to pass them, and as the column was passing poured into them two or three volleys, emptying about twenty saddles. At the same time a small body came out of the woods and charged the rear of the column, throwing our main body into confusion, and owing to the unexpectedness of this fierce attack they could not be rallied until they had retreated to Six Mile Ordinary, a distance of from 2 to 3 miles. Here they rallied, charged, and dispersed the pursuing enemy; but in consequence of their horses being completely worn-out they were unable to take advantage of the change in our favor.

The number missing at present is 5 officers and 33 men some of the latter are supposed to be in the woods, their horses having been shot and disabled. The enemy's loss, so far as I can ascertain, appears to be 5 killed and 15 wounded.

Immediately on hearing the firing I ordered out one battalion under Major McCandless to support Captain Faith. On reaching Williamsburg they met the retiring party and there halted for further orders. In the mean time you had arrived in camp and resumed command.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. KLEINZ,

Major.

Lieutenant-Colonel LEWIS,

Commanding Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY, Yorktown, February 9, 1863.

Respectfully forwarded to Major-General Dix, commanding department.

Captain Faith, who commanded the scouting party, is wounded in the face and speaks with difficulty.

The reconnaissance was not conducted properly, and was in violation of my general instructions. Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, commanding Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, had left for Yorktown on business but a short time before the party was sent out by Major Kleinz in consequence of the representations of the deserters. I have heretofore regarded Captain Faith as an enterprising officer, but he and Major Kleinz have in this instance both allowed themselves to be deceived: Captain Faith was led into an ambush at a point near Nine Mile Ordinary, which is about 21 miles from Yorktown.

E. D. KEYES,

Major-General.

Major-General DIX.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS, Yorktown, February 10, 1863.

Lieutenant George Smith and 5 privates reported missing in the reconnaissance of the 7th instant have not come in. Lieutenant Williamson was killed and Captain Hagemaster and Lieutenant Reinmuller and Little were taken prisoners. Five rebel deserters have just come in.

Lee's brigade of cavalry is reported, on pretty good authority, to be in King William County, opposite the White House.

E. D. KEYES,

Major-General.

Confederate Reports

Numbers 3. Report of Brigadier General Henry A. Wise, C. S. Army. BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS. Chaffin's Farm, Va., February 10, 1863-12 m.

GENERAL: The report of Colonel [William B.] Tabb, [Fifty-ninth Virginia Infantry,] is fully confirmed. On Saturday, the 7th instant, at about 5 p.m., the enemy advanced in force (about 85 cavalry) up the Telegraph road and approached near the Olive Branch Church, below the Burnt Ordinary. Colonel Tabb had about 100 infantry and about 150 cavalry. When the enemy came within short range he fired one volley of infantry and charged with his cavalry, killing some 7 or 8 and wounding some 2 or 3, which were captured, and capturing 35 prisoners, with their horses, arms, accouterments, &c., and pursuing the enemy down to the Six Mile Ordinary, and there firing severely into them and putting them to rout. Probably their wounded who escaped amounted to some 10 or 20 more. Thus the colonel, without the loss or injury of a man or horse, succeeded in killing, wounding, and capturing some 50 or 60 of the enemy's cavalry—from a fifth to a fourth of his whole number. I send to you 35 prisoners, among whom are 1 captain and 2 lieutenants. One lieutenant was killed. These men are chiefly Germans, of the rascally Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, who destroyed the records of Charles City County and who burned the buildings, library, &c., of the venerable William and Mary College. I trust they will be dealt with accordingly.

Accompanying this is a note from Colonel Tab. I have approved of his request to retain the horses, arms, &c., for his cavalry. They need them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
HENRY A. WISE.

Brigadier-General.

Major-General ELZEY, Commanding, &c.

Numbers 4. Report of Colonel William B. Tabb, Fifty-ninth Virginia Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS, Diascund Bridge, Va., February 7, 1863.

GENERAL: I left my encampment here at 10 a.m. to-day and with a detachment of six companies of cavalry and four of infantry (an aggregate force of 235) moved down the Telegraph road in the direction of Williamsburg. At Olive Branch Church, 1 mile below the Burnt Ordinary, my advance guard came upon a detachment of the enemy's cavalry. The position being favorable I immediately disposed my force in ambush and awaited their approach. When they had come within close range, I ordered a volley of musketry and taking advantage of their confusion charged them with my cavalry. They were easily routed. The pursuit was continued as far as the Six Mile Ordinary. The enemy lost 7 killed, 2 wounded, and 36 captured, with their horses, arms, and equipments. In my command there are no losses or casualties to report. My original object was to penetrate the enemy's lines and gain the rear of the guard force in Williamsburg. My intention having been discovered, I decided to abandon it for the present and returned to my intrenchments. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. B. TABB.

Colonel, Commanding (OR s.1 v.18, pt.1, 149-153).

³² William Barksdale Tabb (1839-1874), colonel 59th Virginia Infantry, from Amelia County, Virginia attended Virginia Military Institute and entered the war as a colonel.

³³ John Faucett (1840-Aft. 1880), private Company D Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company C 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), from Union, South Carolina. After the war, he and his wife Rosanna were laborers.

³⁴ DuPlatt Hagemeister, captain field and staff 5th Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry.

³⁵ James L. Haile (1841-Aft. 1892), 1st sergeant Company E Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (2nd lieutenant Company H 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), son of Benjamin and Maria Lenoir Haile of Kershaw County, South Carolina, graduated from Kings Mountain College. He married Mary Hamilton of North Carolina in 1868. Haile, a farmer, was elected sheriff of Kershaw County in 1884 and 1888.

³⁶ R. H. Welsh or Welch, private Company A Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company I 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry).

³⁷ Robert C. Webb (1829-1864), captain Company A Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company I 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), son of William and Jane Webb of Sumter County, South Carolina, was killed May 30, 1864 at Old Church, Hanover County, Virginia.

³⁸ Samuel M. Williamson (Abt. 1844-1863), 1st lieutenant Companies D & H 5th Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry. When captured, he refused to surrender saying, "I will fight rebels and rebellion as long as breath remains in my body." He was shot by the Confederate soldiers, but still refused to give up. A Confederate officer attached a note to his body, "I regret the necessity that compelled me to shoot such a brave officer, but found it absolutely necessary to do so in

order to save the lives of my own men; he positively refused to surrender, when ordered to do so, and still kept firing his revolver at my men even after he had been twice wounded." Williamson, age 19, had 17 bullet holes in his body (Gayley).

³⁹ One of Tradewell's scouting expeditions was recorded in the OR.

SCOUT CAMP NEAR SLATERSVILLE, June 15, 1863.

Colonel W. P. SHINGLER, Commanding Cavalry:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the success of my scout thus far:

On Saturday evening I went to Barhamsville, and there heard that the enemy were at Hickory Neck. I then fell back to Mr. Ball's, with the intention of meeting Sergeant Thorn with his scout, but heard the enemy were at Slatersville—force, two regiments of infantry. I then felt it my duty to proceed immediately to Slatersville, but found no enemy there. On Sunday, the 14th instant, I went down the Telegraph road. When I got nearly to Warriner's Swamp, I obtained positive information that the enemy were at Barhamsville, their picket at Roper's Church. I dismounted, and sent my horses to New Kent Court-House, and proceeded immediately to Barhamsville. I went in sight of the sentinel at Roper's; then took the woods, and went in the rear of Barhamsville, to ascertain, if possible, the force and position of the enemy. Their force I found out to be 200 infantry and 50 cavalry; their position, Barhamsville. They were re-enforced yesterday evening, pretty heavily, I think. Last night they sent up a large scout of some 500 or 600 cavalry. I have not yet learned how far they went, but I suppose to the Court-House. I had no means of reporting their advance to the picket. They returned to Barhamsville last night about 11 o'clock. You will, no doubt, think this a lengthy report, but I have tried to be as explicit as possible.

I have the honor to remain, colonel, your obedient servant.

A. G. TRADEWELL.

[P. S.]—I have heard nothing of Thorn and his party (OR s.1 v.27 pt.3, 891-892).

⁴⁰ Charles Bingley Bell (1843-Bef. 1883), private Company A Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company I 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry), son of William and Mary Bell of Sumter County, South Carolina.

⁴¹ George Stoneman (1822-1894), major general United States Army, born in New York, a West Point graduate and roommate of Stonewall Jackson, was relieved of duty because of poor leadership during the Chancellorsville Campaign. Given a command again in 1864, he was captured attempting to release the prisoners at Andersonville in July 1864. He was the highest ranking Union officer captured. Stoneman was Governor of California 1883-1887.

⁴² Report of Colonel William P. Shingler, Holcombe Legion to Colonel George D. Wise from Bottom's Bridge June 26, 1863.

CAPTAIN: I have just received the following dispatch from Sergeant Thorn, who, in command of a scout, followed the enemy, to ascertain his destination: We overtook the enemy's pickets at Nelson's Bridge, on the Pamunkey; charged on them, capturing 1, and released Lieutenant [W. P.] McKnight, of the Seventeenth Virginia Regiment, and 6 of his men, whom they had captured. From the lieutenant's account, their force was about 1, 500, and the main force had gone to Central Bridge, on the South Anna. They had taken a great many horses and mules, which they had run across the river, and we could not get at them. Our horses are broken down, and we will not send the prisoner until morning. It affords me pleasure to bring to the notice of the general the gallantry of Sergt. W. T. Thim (Thorn), of Company B, Holcombe Legion. My scouts to-day in the neighborhood of the White House could see no tents or troops, and only two steamers, which appeared to be gunboats (OR s.1 v.27 pt.2, 799).

⁴³ On June 18, 1863, a detachment of the Holcombe Legion led by Atche Tradewell and a detachment of the 32nd Battalion Virginia Cavalry met a group of pickets of the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry. The losses suffered by the 5th Pennsylvania were one killed, one mortally wounded and one prisoner (OR s.1 v.27 pt.2, 792).

⁴⁴ Christopher H. Hussung (1835-Aft. 1880), private Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry). Hussung, born in Germany, was a miller in Columbia. His wife, Mary, was born in Alabama.

⁴⁵ Ginny Martin (b-1844), Alicia (b-1842), daughters of Thomas Martin a farmer in New Kent County, Virginia.

⁴⁶ Tunstall's Station, New Kent County, Virginia, was a station on the Richmond and York River Railroad. The Holcomb Legion Cavalry was camped nearby, and John Taylor was captured near there.

Prison Notes

The writer John Taylor (b.1842) Jr. 2^d Lieut of Co. "B" Holcombe Legion Cavalry at that time was captured on the night of July 2^d 1863 by a picket of men from the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry. I had been sent to withdraw Lieut. E P Chalmers & three men from a perilous position in which they had been placed by a misunderstanding by Col. W. P. Shingler of the topography of the country & the roads.

Finding a picket at the point at which I had been told I should find Chalmers I mistook the voice for his, it was too dark to distinguish the blue from the grey uniform & I had ridden among them before I knew that they were not friends.

I was the acting Adjt of the Holcombe Legion Cav. Battalion & should not have been sent upon such an errand, but having been called up by the Col. Commanding it was not the part of a soldier to make any protest.

We had heard about mid day of this July 2^d 1863 that General Lee was fighting a great battle near Gettysburg P^o. Gen D H Hill¹ Confed had been down near Black Water and Gen¹ Dix² Federal had been reported moving up the York River to West Point & the White House where the Pamunkey & the Mataponi Rivers join & form the York—and it was thought by those in authority at Richmond that this demonstration should be looked after & so Gen¹ D. H. Hill had come with Jenkins³ SC Brigade & Ransoms⁴ N.C. brigade to Bottoms Bridge 12 miles from Richmond across the Chickahominy, and spent a part of the morning with Jenkins & Ransom at Shingler's Hd. Qrs. My cousin Ben Taylor⁵ from Alabama I met here, he had married Ransom's sister & was a Capt. on his staff. I met also Col T M Logan of the Hampton Legion with whom I had been at College, & W^m & Stanmore Watson⁶ two Columbia boys. Dix had two brigades or more of Infantry one commanded by the same Gen. Terry⁷ who towards the last of the war captured Wilmington N.C. I heard.

Just after my capture I was taken a few steps to Capt Faith⁸ commanding the Co. on picket, then on a miserable brute of a horse which was led by a private riding on my right with the rope attached to my horses bit in his left hand & his pistol in his right hand, I was taken to Gen¹ Terry whose Hd Qrs were in an ambulance on the field just in the rear of his brigade.

After a few questions I was again moved on to Gen Dix at this time on board of a Steamer at the White House.⁹ He was very polite & invited me to be seated. We sat & chatted for quite awhile. He was apparently a gentleman and some years later on was Governor of New York.

Not long after I was put on another boat which steamed down the York River on to Fortress Monroe where the boat landed several parties aboard and proceeded to Norfolk where I was landed & taken by my guard to Fort Norfolk the old Norfolk Jail. Fant ("Bud")¹⁰ who was captured just after me, & Clopton (W^m E.)¹¹ whom I found at the White House, & a prisoner from the Hampton Legion, & I were carried there together and locked in. There we found Lt. Col Hargrove,¹² Capt Bingham¹³ Lieuts Workman,¹⁴ Coble¹⁵ & F. N. Dick¹⁶ & a few others among them Hudgins¹⁷ a sort of non descript, said he was a blockade runner, also about six Doctors who were Surgeons and who were held as hostages for the Rucker (M.D.) case.¹⁸ I remember but two of them by name D^r Green a pale light haired man & D^r Reid who pitied me because I would not consent to try to pass myself off as a private when I was not. Privates were then being exchanged regularly while officers were not. My grade Jr. 2^d Lieut was the lowest of the commissioned officers, but I did not think with him & honestly told him so.

At this place three times each day our food was placed inside the door & we eat it as best we could without knives other than those we happened to have—no spoons no plates no cups no dishes. We found a few bottles which we broke as well as we could & used them as cups for our tea, chickory coffee & bean soup from the camp kettles & eat our meals as best we could with our knives fingers & teeth—those broken bottles we had no opportunity to wash. The bread was in sheets of loaves of the kind we call Bakers bread, the quantity of food there was more than enough for our appetites.

Our privy was barrels in the same room with us, emptied I was told once a day. The morning after I arrived a box with seats & drawers was put in by carpenters & the boxes taken out daily, but the air was filthy and the hot sun with only the shingles of the roof overhead made it no better. There I remained five days. Then eleven of us left the Doctors behind & went by boat to Fort Delaware where we remained for two weeks. There we had tables set for us tin plates & cups, knives & forks & spoons and benches to sit on, each plate with its helping for one man & each cup with its tea or so called coffee.

I had two dimes with me which I had preserved for spur rowels, but I spent them here to get paper envelope & stamp to write a letter home. At Norfolk the Negro who placed our food inside the door was polite but told us in a whisper that he did not dare to listen or to talk to us.

At Fort Delaware we were required to sign paroles not to attempt to escape "until we reached point of destination." But they refused to tell us where we were going. We landed however at Johnson's Island, Ohio in Lake Erie about two and a half miles across Sandusky Bay from Sandusky City, Ohio. Johnson's Island was after July 1863 a prison for Confederate officers only. There was among them perhaps 5 or 6 privates left behind sick when the others were taken out.

There we were placed in Block 12 the last to the left or North as we passed down the two rows of buildings from the gate which opened on the west side of the enclosure or "Bull Pen" as we all called it. There were six buildings or blocks on the left and six on the right and one block 13 at the extreme Eastern end between Blocks 11 and 12—The two rows of Blocks faced each other probably 70 yards between.

The odd numbers were on the South side & the even numbers on the North. Block 6 was made the Hospital.

In my room at Block 12 we had 56 men. The bunks were three deep that is there was one about two feet from the floor another above it about three feet higher and still another about three feet higher than the second. A sack stuffed with oat or wheat straw was our mattress & one blanket was given each of us. By the way I remember no water except to drink at Fort Norfolk or Fort Delaware, but at Johnson's Island we had pumps which at first gave us moderately good water. The lake water was excellent and this was generally used I think for drinking. We had two large Messes in each Block called Mess 1 & Mess 2 giving the Block no. first. For some months I was in Block 12 Mess 1, but later on got into Block 1 Mess 2. The Blocks generally had three large rooms below & three above, but those nearest the west gate was cut up into small rooms each room was counted as having places for eight the bunks there were but two deep.

When I was in the small room Block 1 Mess 2 my room mates were J F Crocker¹⁹ Portsmouth V^a and J. S. Reid,²⁰ Eatonton, Ga. and I from Block 12 and R. H. Isbell,²¹ Talladega Ala & Jas Spence,²² Selma Ala. I. C. Fain,²³ Ga. Jas W Lapsley²⁴ Selma Ala and J H Wiggins²⁵ Arkadelphia Arkansaw.

Capt Owen²⁶ of Arkansaw a friend of Crockers had been invited to take the vacant place in this room, but there was not room there for his friends in his mess & he recommended Crocker who accepted only when he found he would be allowed to bring his friends Reid & Taylor. I left several good friends at Block 12 the closest was James E Poindexter²⁷ of Pittsylvania V^a now (1898) an Episcopal Minister.

We reached Johnson's Island I think on 20th July 1863—For some months food was plentiful and we were allowed to buy from the Sutler whatever we desired & could pay for in the shape of food. But before long he was restricted in one way & then another until we could buy only tobacco and stationary, if I remember rightly. Certainly not an overcoat or blanket or clothing or shoes, and nothing in the shape of food. This it was said was done in retaliation of the treatment of Union or Federal Prisoners at the South.

The law allowed us little enough, but by the time it was given out in large wholesale amounts by Government Contractors and had passed through the hands of those who thought such poor devils had no friends near by & could be fleeced with out danger, and it reached our Island, the shrinkage was not yet complete for our Prison Chief Col Fite²⁸ of Tennessee had help to divide it up among our Chief of Messes 24 in number and our 24 chiefs must have help to divide it among all the sub messes, and then the cooks & the hewers of wood & the drawers of water for the cooks work, all every blessed one must have a little toll each, and thus by the time it reached the individual it certainly was not at all what the law said what each individual should or might have. Complaints were made to Col Charles W. Hill²⁹ to Lt Col Scovill³⁰ & other officers and they spoke kindly enough to us, but seemed unable to effect any change for our benefit.

The winters at times were bitter cold and the winds cut to the bone but at Block 12 one stove was all we had for 50 men and our rooms had only the perpendicular weather boards and the shingles between us and the bleak winds of the night, no ceiling except in the Blocks near the gate. Block 1 where my second winter was spent was very much more comfortable—our rooms there were ceiled.

There were in all it was said from 3000 to 3300 prisoners there confined. All were officers from July 1863 to 1865, except a few privates who were sick and had been left there when the privates were removed to make room for the officers. These officers were from all parts of the Country within the Confederacy & from many other directions originally besides. One was an Indian a Capt Hamilton³¹ of the 2^d Choctaw Regiment from the Trans Mississippi Section he died there of Erysipelas³² at the Hospital. W. Tully Norwood³³ also died at the Hospital there. I knew him at College but did not know he was a prisoner there until I heard of his death. Three others were there whom I had known at School & College Ni Spencer³⁴ of Louisiana and Albert Taylor Goodwyn³⁵ of Alabama, & S G Godfrey³⁶ of Cheraw S.C. Also Capt Angus P Brown³⁷ of 1st SC Cavalry.

A Negro³⁸ was there too from Louisiana who declined to remain outside so long as his young Master was inside. There also a very bad fellow named Berry³⁹ with a face as bad as his character—he killed two men while there, one poor fellow named Mussleman⁴⁰ who was small & weak, a consumptive. The other was a

pleasant spoken pleasant faced young fellow named Morgan⁴¹ from Kentucky said to have been a relative of Gen John Morgan.⁴² Berry stabbed both of these men over quarrells at cards at different times. Mussleman lived quite a while but was too weak to stand the additional drain from his wound. Morgan bled severely & was said to have died from loss of blood a few hours after. Berry when I last remember seeing him was in solitary confinement in a small house with in the dead line along the fence, balled & chained I think. He should have been hung, for there was no fight with either, but stabs without warning of men who were unarmed & had struck no blows.

Our most prominent indeed only prominent preacher was Col Lewis⁴³ of Missouri—he was quite an orator & always drew & held a crowd.

We had an ex prize fighter too, Rob^t A Rollins⁴⁴ an Austrian who had run away from school in Austria when but seventeen years old & being educated for the Catholic priesthood. Had come to America & been a soldier on the plains of our west, keeper of a bar & Restaurant, deck hand, & mate of a Western River Steamer besides doing odd jobs among which six prize fights had been fought & he had been winner in every one it was claimed, & so he was more or less a celebrity among us. In warm weather he wore only an undervest above his belt. One day he handed me a scrap of paper on which he had written a few lines in Greek characters which were most beautifully formed. I failed to translate his lines not knowing the meanings of his words & he was much amused that I could not.

Our best player at Draughts was Poindexter then Gen^l Beale⁴⁵ of Arkansas on whose staff John R Fellows⁴⁶ was. Fellows afterwards became quite a conspicuous character in N.Y. and National politics.

Col Carrington⁴⁷ was believed to be the best Chess player, next to him J F Crocker my room mate & third my old bunk mate Poindexter, now Rev Jas. E. the same who was best at Draughts. We had books on both games—on chess we had Agnel & Morphy's⁴⁸ games & his life.

There were books to be bought & we had schools or classes of Law, of Medicine & of Languages German & French especially—Louis Rüb⁴⁹ taught several of us. His mother & her family were French & spoke French in their homes, his father & his family were German & spoke German. All lived in New Orleans, and hence he might be said to have had three native tongues where most of us have but one.

News papers were plentiful—I took the N.Y. Herald, Lapsley the N.Y. Tribune, Isbell the Cincinnati Enquirer, Crocker the N.Y. Express, and near by we could exchange for the N.Y. News (Ben Woods⁵⁰ paper) the Sandusky Register & others.

Escape was very very difficult. Grogan⁵¹ of Baltimore was the first to escape. Soon after his arrival he & others went out for straw for their mattresses & he covered himself up in the straw & took the boat to Sandusky. Was not noticed & escaped. I met him in 1896 here in Columbia S.C. & he gave me an account of it. Woodson⁵² of Va was the next that I recall. He had Yankee uniform pants or similar ones & was well dressed in a new suit, overcoat, gloves etc. he passed out coolly between the guards as a federal officer when we went out on the ice of the Bay to get our water & sauntered off towards Sandusky quite leisurely. The next we heard of him was a letter from him at home. Capt Farinholdt⁵³ got hold of some good clothes too & tried the same game only a few days afterwards. Was stopped by one of the guard of the Lake gate & turned back. He walked immediately to the small western gate (hidden from the other gate by Block 1) and tapped as the officers generally did & called out "Little Gate." The gate was opened by the keeper & F. was saluted returned the salute and marched on across the ice to Sandusky & arrived safely at home in James City Co. Va.

Repeated attempts were made to tunnel out, but seldom with success. Capt Cole had a very severe experience, he & others had their tunnel ready from Block 1 and waited for a hard freeze so that they could walk across the Bay to the main land, from one to two & a half miles off. A freeze came & that night the party started. Cole I heard was the third man, the ground was of course very hard & they had left a thick crust for fear of a cave in before the freeze, which would have killed their plans. And so when they tried to open upwards it was with great difficulty it was done, though in time the two men ahead of Cole got through. Cole got into the hole & could get no further, he whispered to his friends above him to pull hard, and so they did. But he was too big or the hole was too small, & pulling in front & pushing at the back only fastened him the more securely. When he found he could not move or be moved he told the two outside to go on & save themselves which they tried to do. Those behind tried to help him but could not. The sentinels were just above him on the fence platform, & there the poor fellow stood in his frozen & freezing fetters for hours—the rain & sleet was falling & freezing & yet he made no sound until towards day when the sentinels saw him & had to dig him out of his hole. The two men who had passed on were caught I believe—and so all their work & his sufferings were without fruit. A Prison wag wrote some verses⁵⁴ in his honor however.

Pelham⁵⁵ of Ala. a brother of the "Gallant Pelham"⁵⁶ who died with Stuart⁵⁷ tried to saw out one dark night when the rain was freezing as it fell & the bay was frozen over. He had crossed the "dead line" of the

stakes and hidden himself under one of the Locomotive head lights (reflectors) which were fastened to the fence at intervals & furnished a bright light every where except where its own base made a black shadow just under the lamp. There he watched the sentinel on the fence above him, & when his back was turned Pelham would use his case knife saw & as the sentinel would turn his face towards Pelham in his walk to and fro the sawing would cease. But his ears chanced to catch the sound & he leveled his gun at Pelham to shoot which was in conformity to order. Pelham called to him to "hold on" & listen to him & quite a little argument was made by Pelham to get the fellow to let him talk even if he had to shoot later on. Pelham succeeded in getting the floor and keeping it until the sentinel agreed to call the officer of the Guard which he did, & then Pelham was taken to the dark hole for the night in his frozen clothing, and the next day was made to stand on a barrel near the gate where those who passed in & out could see him. He was certainly a forlorn looking object when I saw him there.

Many parties of prisoners were formed to capture the Island, by a rush to the armory and gaining possession of arms, they were always picked men, but some how nothing was ever accomplished. Smaller squads would form to make a dash & climb the fence together & then run for it, but we would be told by the Sutler that our plans & the day & hour were known to Col Hill, & we would be advised not to try it. One night Caruthers of Kentucky & perhaps 20 others had agreed to try scaling the fence but again the Sutler had told us our hour was known. Of course we must have had spies among us but we could not spot them. This night however some six or seven of the number had sworn they would try it known or not known & they did. I was one of those who thought our only chance was by trying when it was a surprise so I declined to join the small party. I knew their hour however, & lay awake with several others listening for it when it came. They had collected at the Hospital & had short ladders which had been kept hidden under the benches we sat upon, & when one stood on the top round of one of theses ladders he could just reach with his hands the top of the fence. Well the hour came & the men made a silent rush for the fence, one man was killed by the fire of the sentinels & one (Caruthers) was knocked off the fence with the butt of a gun. Four I think got over, & ran as hard as they could for the nearest point of main land. The firing roused the Guard in Camp and they did not stop to put on shoes or gather arms, but ran in woolen stockings towards the same point taking it for granted that this would be the road taken by any escaped prisoners. Sure enough the Guard reached the point where our men struck the ice of the Bay in sight of them only one or two hundred yards behind them. The men in shoes & unaccustomed to running on ice were soon overtaken by the Guard who were in stockings & accustomed to running on ice and long before the mile race was run they were all caught & overpowered. Poor Caruthers was pretty badly bruised by the blow & the fall.

One night I was standing near the back door of Block 1, & heard a sentinel on the fence call out "Lights out Block 3"—I looked up at Block 3 next to ours, & saw no light except the moonlight on the glass of the windows, the call was repeated once or twice then a shot was fired. I heard the ball strike the house then a commotion inside and the next day learned two men who were asleep had been wounded one named Inman⁵⁸ (from Georgia I think) & there had been no light in the building when the shot was fired except moonlight.

There was no general exchange of prisoners and but few special exchanges, but rumors of Exchanges were constantly afloat. After a while however we called it an "Exchange" when a poor fellow was taken to the Grave Yard. A great many died but I never learned the percentage of the death rate.

Erysipelas was common & chills & fever & an occasional case of small pox. One of my room mates in Block 12 named McElroy⁵⁹ took it (Small pox) was taken to the Pest House and died there. McKenzie from Georgia his bed fellow continued to sleep in the same bunk with the same blankets, but did not take it—there was no other case in our room. W^m E Clopton had Erysipelas & I spent over two nights at the Hospital with him. There were about thirty-five cases in that ward, all but one had it in the head. Iodine was the remedy, & the tightly swollen heads, discolored by Iodine gave a most unearthly appearance to every thing. A mother would find it hard to recognize her son so disfigured.

We had a squall or hurricane⁶⁰ in Sept '64 I think it was the wind from the North West & our Blocks rocked terribly & two or three were partly unroofed. A scantling 3x4 inches in size & about 15 feet long was blown from the roof of one Block across the yard & struck the weather boarding of the Block across the way end foremost & went through it about half of the length of the scantling. In my room a rush was made for the door, I yelled "too late" for the noise of the wind made a deafening roar, but my yell stopped the move and though the house was rocking we closed the door & put our shoulders against the sashes of the windows & held them in place, otherwise I think they would have been blown in. After the blow that lasted but a very short time we went down our stairway to the ground & examined the house. It looked very crooked but appeared secure, & no work was done on it as a consequence. A gun boat The Michigan I think it was called was in the Bay at the time & it was said it came very nearly being upset. The few trees close around the Prison

fence were snapped off like pipe stems. Quite a number of Prisoners had run out of the houses for safety & had rushed about so wildly that they were shot at by the sentinels, but nobody was hurt that I heard of.

The fatigue duty of the Prisoners Quarters or "Bull Pen" was done regularly by details made by each chief of Mess. Every man served no matter what his rank if not disabled or sick. A cart would be brought in from the outside to take away such things as it was thought best to have removed.

A large quantity of work was done in gutta percha⁶¹ and shell & some in silver & gold. Rings, cuff buttons, studs, watch chains etc. Some of it was very creditable work though we had our own tools to make except perhaps pocket & case knives, files & needles. With the file we made saws of the backs of the case knives and they did double duty, & used the needles as fine chisels & drill points making Jewelers drills of wood & string, & paste board for a balance wheel. I brought home several samples of my work—a seal ring with conch shell "stone" set in gold by Waché the gold furnished by me from Grandfather's watch chain. Also studs, shields done by M^cCullough⁶² of V^a who excelled us all in carved work & designs. When Hamilton the Indian died M^cCullough who was a brother Mason got a thick board in the shape of a tomb and on it carved in raised work a broken oak tree with but one branch it also broken, at its root lay an empty quiver, a broken arrow, an unstrung bow, and a tomahawk. Also above this the square & compass signs of the Mason. This work was beautifully done & probably every man in the prison came to look at it.

¹ Daniel Harvey Hill (1821-1889), lieutenant general Confederate Army, born in York District, South Carolina, graduated from West Point in 1842, served in the Mexican War, and in 1861 entered the Confederate Army. After the war he continued his teaching career.

² John Adams Dix (1798-1879), major general United States Army, born in New Hampshire, United States senator from New York 1845-1849, United States minister to France 1866-1869, governor of New York 1873-1875.

³ Micah Jenkins (1835-1864), brigadier general Confederate Army, son of John and Elizabeth Clark Jenkins of Edisto Island, South Carolina, graduated from The Citadel in 1854, founded Kings Mountain Military Academy, married Caroline Jamison (1839-1902) in 1856, was mortally wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness on May 6, 1864 by the "friendly fire" of General William Mahone's Virginia Brigade.

⁴ Robert Ransom, Jr. (1828-1892), major general Confederate Army, from Warren County, North Carolina, graduated from West Point in 1850, resigned from the United States Army to enter the Confederate Army.

⁵ Benjamin Franklin Taylor (1833-Aft. 1880), born in South Carolina, lived in Birmingham Alabama, John Taylor's first cousin, son of James Hunt and Elizabeth Witten Taylor, married Priscilla Ransom (1836-Aft. 1880) of North Carolina.

⁶ William Watson (1840-1875) and his brother Stanmore Watson (1843-1907), privates Company B, Hampton Legion, sons of Stanmore and Elizabeth Hutchison Watson. Stanmore married Sarah E. Jenkins (1848-1922) and was a farmer in Edgefield County, South Carolina.

⁷ Alfred Howe Terry (1827-1890), major general of Volunteers United States Army, born in Connecticut, became military commander of the Dakota Territory in 1866.

⁸ Anderson Faith, captain Company M 5th Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry.

⁹ The July 3rd letter to General Dix tells of the capture of two of the enemy on the night of July 2nd. The two prisoners were John Taylor and Bud Fant.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS, Baltimore Store, July 3, 1863 - 8 a. m.

Major-General DIX, Commanding Department of Virginia:

GENERAL: Your note of 6. 30 p. m. {General Dix corrected the time, "GENERAL: My note was written at 6. 30 a. m., not p. m."} is received. Early this morning I sent out parties of the cavalry in every direction. Four miles down the New Kent road, no enemy discovered. A little more than a mile and a half from the Baltimore Store, down the Long Bridge road, cavalry and infantry seen. On the road to Crump's Cross-Roads, near Quall's, their picket line is formed. Round to the right, in the neighborhood of the mill - cross-roads and straight road you refer to - which part of the country occupied some of my attention during the whole night, no enemy, excepting the 2 prisoners sent in to you last night, has been found. I sent a accompany of infantry out to the mill last night. In regard to the strength of the enemy, it is impossible to ascertain, owing to the broken country and the forests. Every available man of my command, with the exception of one very small regiment, has had his place in line of skirmishers or line of battle during the entire night, and has it now. I should like to have a couple of good, strong regiments, under an active, enterprising man, to send out on a reconnaissance, if they can prudently be spared from the White House. But by all means I should like to have the troops there picket well up toward my position and Tunstall's Station. On the straight road you refer to, I have a party patrolling between the two picket lines.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

E.D. Keyes

Major General Commanding Fourth Corps (OR S.1 V.27 pt.2. 830).

¹⁰ Adolphus E., George D., Joseph, and Napoleon Fant, were privates in Company D Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company C 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry). One of these was Bud.

¹¹ William Edmund Clopton (1820-1887), lieutenant Company F 3rd Regiment Virginia Cavalry, from Tunstalls, New Kent County, Virginia, was captured at the White House July 1, 1863 and sent to Johnson's Island with John Taylor. Clopton's autograph book, owned by The Museum of the Confederacy, contains John Taylor's signature. Clopton, a farmer, married Ellen Hill (1833-Bef. 1887).

¹² Tazewell Lee Hargrove (1830-1899), lieutenant colonel field and staff 44th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, captured June 26, 1863 at South Anna Bridge near Hanover Junction by the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, arrived at Johnson's Island on July 20, 1863 with John Taylor. He was North Carolina attorney general 1873-1877. His Johnson's Island autograph book is owned by the SHC.

¹³ Robert Bingham (1838-1931), captain Company G 44th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, from Hillsborough, North Carolina, captured June 26, 1863 at South Anna Bridge near Hanover Junction by the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, arrived at Johnson's Island July 20, 1863 with John Taylor, was exchanged in February 1864 and returned to duty before November 1864. He was a graduate of the University of North Carolina, superintendent the Bingham School founded by his grandfather, and was in the North Carolina Legislature. His wife was named Delia.

¹⁴ Soren H. Workman, 1st lieutenant Company G 44th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, captured at South Anna Bridge near Hanover Junction June 26, 1863 by the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, arrived at Johnson's Island on July 20, 1863 with John Taylor. He left Johnson's Island February 1865.

¹⁵ George Semore Coble (1842-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company G 44th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, captured June 26, 1863 at South Anna Bridge near Hanover Junction by the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, arrived at Johnson's Island on July 20, 1863 with John Taylor. He was sent to Fort Delaware in February 1864 but not released until June 1865. Coble was a farmer in Alamance County, North Carolina. His wife was named Mary.

¹⁶ Frederick N. Dick, 2nd lieutenant Company G 44th Regiment North Carolina Infantry. Autograph, p. 70.

¹⁷ Lewis Hudgins, acting master Confederate Navy, captured at South Anna Bridge near Hanover Junction June 26, 1863, by the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry (OR s. 1 v. 27 pt. 2, 796).

¹⁸ William P. Rucker, surgeon United States Army, from Virginia, held by the Confederates, was indicted by a grand jury in Allegheny County, Virginia in 1862 for treason, murder and horse stealing. In retaliation for his arrest, the Federal Government took hostages including Dr. J. C. Green assistant surgeon Confederate Navy. Rucker escaped in October 1863 and Green, held since January 1863, was released (OR s.2 v.5 pt.2, 217, and v.6, 656).

¹⁹ James Francis Crocker (1828-1917), adjutant 9th Regiment Virginia Infantry. Autograph, p. 87.

²⁰ John S. Reid (1840-Aft. 1919), captain Company B 3rd Regiment Georgia Infantry. Autograph, p. 63.

²¹ Robert Houston Isbell (1834-1892), captain Company D 1st Regiment Alabama Volunteer Infantry. Autograph, p. 96.

²² James Spence (1827-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company C 51st Regiment Alabama Cavalry. Autograph, p. 90.

²³ Probably Isaac Fain, Company D 1st Regiment Alabama Infantry.

²⁴ James Woods Lapsley (1835-1901), 1st lieutenant Company E 51st Regiment Alabama Cavalry. Autograph, p. 91.

²⁵ Jannadine H. Wiggins, captain Wiggins Light Artillery. Autograph, p. 91.

²⁶ William F. Owen, captain Company K 18th Regiment Arkansas Infantry. Autograph, p. 84.

²⁷ James Edward Poindexter (1838-1912), captain Company H 38th Regiment Virginia Infantry. Autograph, p. 64.

²⁸ John Amenas Fite (1832-1925), colonel 7th Regiment Tennessee Infantry, from Smith County, Tennessee, wounded at Gaines' Mill June 1862, and at Cedar Mountain, Virginia August 1862, was captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863. On October 22, 1864, Fite and 33 other chiefs of messes signed a letter to Colonel Charles W. Hill requesting more food for the prisoners (OR s.2 v.7 pt.1, 1021-22). Fite received a law degree from Cumberland College in 1855 and practiced law in Smith County. His wife was named Mary. His Johnson's Island autograph book is owned by the SHC.

²⁹ Charles W. Hill, colonel 128th Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, took command of the United States forces guarding Johnson's Island on May 9, 1864.

³⁰ Edward A. Scovill, lieutenant colonel 128th Regiment Ohio Infantry, inspecting officer at Johnson's Island.

³¹ Simeon E. Hamilton (d.1864), captain Company B 2nd Choctaw Cavalry, Deneals Regiment, from Eagletown, Choctaw Nation, captured August 26, 1863 at Perrysville, Choctaw Nation, died February 4, 1864 of erysipelas, and is buried in grave 154 at Johnson's Island. An autograph book at The Museum of the Confederacy contains a poem written by Hamilton in both English and Choctaw. The Joyner Library, East Carolina University also contains some of Hamilton's writings.

Confederacy & Memorial of the Choctaw Prisoners

As freeman ought the south contended for her rights

The Choctaw was stand by her.

For her rights, she sacrificed her many brave sons,

Choctaw has done the same—likewise

For her rights many blood's of her beloved sons
Has been shed on her own soil;
Choctaw blood has been required as one of them
For her rights she had many brave sons
Imprisoned on Johnson's Island
And there is Choctaw among her sons
On an Island, unaccustomed & hostile climate
Her brave sons are kept looking for better days,
And Choctaw among them.

³² Erysipelas, a streptococcus bacterial skin infection with chills, high fever, and skin lesions.

³³ William Tully Norwood (1834-1864), 1st lieutenant Company E 6th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, from Darlington, South Carolina, wounded at Sharpsburg September 1862, captured at Lookout Mountain October 20, 1863, died of chronic diarrhea January 11, 1864, and is buried in grave 136 at Johnson's Island.

³⁴ Arias N. Speneer (1845-1886), 1st lieutenant Company G 11th Regiment Louisiana Infantry. Autograph, p. 89.

³⁵ Albert Taylor Goodwyn (1842-1931), lieutenant Company K 58th Regiment Alabama Infantry. Autograph, p. 72.

³⁶ Samuel Gillespie Godfrey (1840-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company C 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry. Autograph, p. 85.

³⁷ Angus P. Brown (1823-Aft. 1894), captain Company K 1st Regiment South Carolina Cavalry.

³⁸ There were at least four black servants and two white servants at Johnson's Island in October 1863, but no rations were issued for them (OR s.2 v.6 pt.1, 397).

³⁹ Thomas F. Berry was a citizen prisoner. His crime was discussed in telegrams from Brigadier General W. Hoffman, commissary-general of prisoners, to Major General H. W. Halleck, and Lieutenant General U. S. Grant. Grant was asked where Berry should be tried and he replied that Berry "may be tried where he is."

OFFICE COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF PRISONERS.

Washington, D. C., February 18, 1865.

Respectfully returned to Major General H. W. Halleck, Chief of Staff.

At the date of this telegram there were no prisoners in irons at Johnson's Island. Last night a citizen prisoner, Thomas F. Berry, was placed in irons for stabbing Lieutenant Harlin Morgan, a prisoner of war, who died of the wound.

W. HOFFMAN, Bvt. Brigadier General, U. S. Army, Commissary-General of Prisoners (OR s.2 v.8 pt.1, 227, 258).

⁴⁰ B. M. Mussleman (d-1863), 2nd lieutenant Company A 4th Regiment Louisiana Infantry, was captured at Baton Rouge February 10, 1863, and sent to Johnson's Island July 1863. Mussleman was stabbed by Thomas F. Berry and died October 20, 1863. He was not buried on Johnson's Island.

⁴¹ Harmon W. Morgan (d-1865), Harlin in OR, lieutenant Companies B & D 1st Regiment Kentucky Infantry, stabbed to death by Thomas F. Berry in February 1865, is buried in an unmarked grave at Johnson's Island.

⁴² John Hunt Morgan (1825-1864), brigadier general Confederate Army, was captured in Ohio July 1863 and sent to Ohio State Penitentiary, but escaped in November 1863. He was killed at Greeneville, Tennessee September 4, 1864.

⁴³ Levin M. Lewis (1832-1886), colonel 16th Regiment Missouri Infantry, captured at Helena, Arkansas July 3, 1863, was promoted to general in May 1865. Lewis was a Methodist minister and educator in Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas. In 1880, Lewis was president of Marvin College, Waxahachie, Texas.

⁴⁴ Robert A. Rollins, 2nd lieutenant Company E 2nd Regiment Kentucky Mounted Infantry. Autograph, p. 70.

⁴⁵ William Nelson Rector Beall (1825-1883), brigadier general Confederate Army, resigned from the United States Army in 1861 to join the Confederate Army. He was captured at Port Hudson July 9, 1863, sent to Johnson's Island, paroled in 1864, appointed Confederate agent for supplying Confederate prisoners and given an office in New York. After the war he was a merchant in St. Louis.

⁴⁶ John R. Fellows (1832-1896), captain, assistant adjutant and inspector general 1st Regiment Arkansas Infantry on General Beall's staff, was captured at Port Hudson on July 9, 1863 and released June 10, 1865. Born in Troy, New York, he moved to Arkansas in 1850, and was admitted to the bar in 1855. Fellows was a United States congressman from New York 1891-1893 and district attorney in New York City 1894-1896.

⁴⁷ Henry A. Carrington (1833-Aft. 1880), colonel 18th Regiment Virginia Infantry, from Providence, Halifax County, Virginia was captured at Gettysburg July 1863 and sent to Johnson's Island. In 1880, Carrington was clerk of court for Charlotte County, Virginia. His wife was named Lottie.

⁴⁸ Paul Charles Morphy (1837-1884), from New Orleans, was a world champion chess player. The books John Taylor told of were *Exploits and Triumphs of Paul Morphy*, by F. M. Edge, New York: 1859, Morphy's *Games*, edited by J. Lowenthal, New York: 1860, and H. R. Agnel, *The Book of Chess*, D. Appleton & Co., New York: 1859.

⁴⁹ Louis Martin Rüb (b-1828), lieutenant Company A 12th Louisiana Battalion Heavy Artillery. Autograph, p. 68.

⁵⁰ Benjamin Woods (1820-1900), publisher of the New York *Daily News*.

⁵¹ Charles E. Grogan, lieutenant Company H 1st Regiment Maryland Infantry, born in Virginia, was living in Maryland in 1861. He was wounded at Chancellorsville, wounded and captured at Gettysburg and sent to Johnson's Island. After his escape he joined Mosby's Rangers.

⁵² William David Woodson (b-1838), lieutenant Company K 28th Regiment Virginia Infantry from Bonsack's Depot, Virginia, wounded at Gaines' Mill June 1862, captured at Gettysburg July 2, 1863, arrived at Johnson's Island July 20, 1863. He escaped February 21, 1864, rejoined his unit and was wounded at Cold Harbor June 1864. He published his account of prison life—*War Recollections of Lieut. Wm D. Woodson Company K, 28th Virginia Regiment including an account of his escape from Johnson's Island during the Civil War*. Lynchburg: Liggan & Holt, 1911.

⁵³ Benjamin Lyons Farinholt (1839-1919), captain 53rd Regiment Virginia Infantry, from Barhamsville, Virginia, wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863, escaped March 1864. After his escape, he was promoted to colonel 1st Regiment Virginia Reserves. Farinholt married his cousin Lelia May Farinholt and was a merchant in Essex County, Virginia.

⁵⁴ Colonel Fite and Captain Fellows composed a verse about the adventures of Captain Cole of Arkansas. The last two lines are:

"And now three cheers for Captain Cole,
Who wouldn't holler when stuck in a hole," (Crouch, 515)

⁵⁵ William Pelham (1836-1889), 2nd lieutenant Company A 51st Regiment Alabama Infantry, son of Atkinson and Mary McGhee Pelham and brother of "the gallant Pelham" of Alexandria, Alabama, was captured at Shelbyville, Tennessee June 10, 1863 and sent to Johnson's Island. Pelham's papers are in the SHC.

⁵⁶ John Pelham (1838-1863), "the gallant Pelham," major Company K 16th Regiment Alabama Infantry left West Point in 1861 to join the Confederate Army. By August 1862, he had been promoted to major commanding the Horse Artillery Battalion under General Stuart. His most brilliant action was at the Battle of Fredericksburg. Pelham was killed at Kelly's Ford, Virginia on March 17, 1863, and was promoted to lieutenant colonel after his death.

⁵⁷ James Ewell Brown Stuart (1833-1864), major general, chief of cavalry the Army of Northern Virginia, from Patrick County, Virginia, was mortally wounded at Yellow Tavern, Virginia and died May 12, 1864.

⁵⁸ Probably Aaron A. Inman, lieutenant Company D 18th Regiment North Carolina Infantry from Leesville, North Carolina.

⁵⁹ John F. McElroy (d-1863), 1st lieutenant Company F 24th Regiment Georgia Infantry, died October 26, 1863 and is buried in grave 130 at Johnson's Island.

⁶⁰ Storm, Johnson's Island September 23, 1864.

HDQRS. U. S. FORCES, JOHNSON'S ISLAND AND SANDUSKY, Johnson's Island, Ohio, September 25, 1864.

Captain JOHN LEWIS, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit herewith my Sunday morning report of the condition of the prison and prisoners: On the night of the 23rd of September, at 8:30 o'clock, the island was visited by the most violent storm of wind and rain ever known in this neighborhood. The damage to the prison was the unroofing of blocks 4, 5, and 9 entirely and one wing of the hospital. A very heavy wind the whole of the day following prevented work on the roofs. To-day as many men as can be supplied with tools are pushing on the repairs. This week will probably see everything in good shape again. The prison fence was prostrated entirely on the northwest side and about fifty yards on the southwest side. The balance of the fence stood, with the exception of a small gap made by the falling of a tree. The fence will probably be up-to-night, as all the force that can be put on are at work. Up to the time of the storm the police of the quarters and grounds was very good. The sinks are also in good order. The sanitary condition of the prisoners is as follows: Whole number of prisoners, 2,664; number in hospital, 51; death since last report, 2. Some ten prisoners were more or less bruised and otherwise injured by the falling of timber, chimneys, &c.; but one seriously and his only a severe flesh wound.

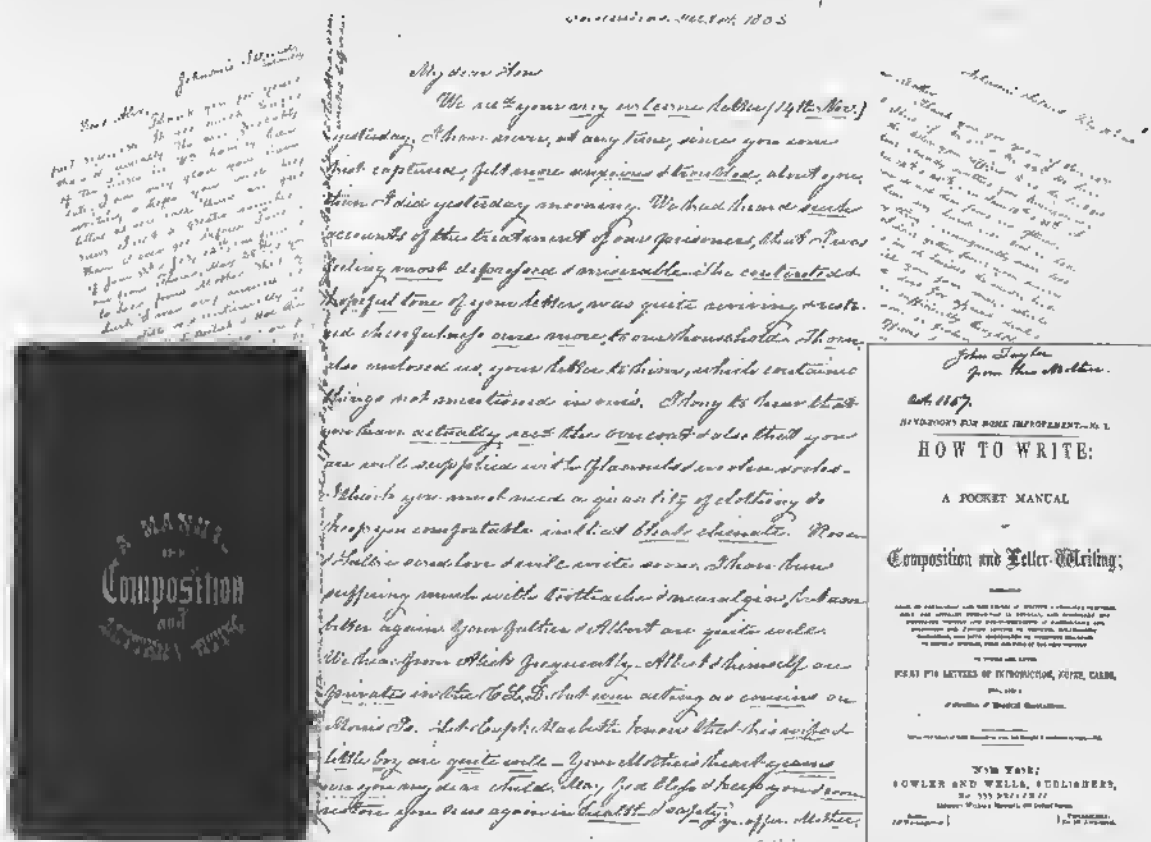
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. SCOVILL, Lieutenant Colonel 128th Ohio Vol Infty., Superintendent of Prison (OR s.2 v.7 pt.1, 876).

⁶¹ Guttapercha, a hard rubbery substance made from the latex of some tropical trees.

⁶² Robert A. McCulloch (1841-1914), captain Company B 18th Regiment Virginia Infantry, born in Missouri, attended Virginia Military Institute, wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863, sent to Johnson's Island, exchanged in March 1865. After the war, he was president of the St. Louis Street Railway in St. Louis. His wife was named Emma.

Dixie Mail and Prison Letters



Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia August 10th. 1863.

My dear Son

Through the kindness of D^r Soskenowski,¹ who wrote to us, as soon as he saw young Fant,² we rec^d the first definite information of you. (Your note never reached us.) You may imagine our intense anxiety & deep distress—but He who has promised that, “As our day is, so shall our strengths be,”³ has mercifully sustained us under this trial, as He has done under so many others. And I trust my dear child that He has sustained you also, & that you have been given grace, to bear in humble submission to His will & bear up with patience & cheerfulness under this trying dispensation—Alick⁴ left your trunk & valise in Richmond with Edward Elmore⁵—Jessy⁶ has returned with ‘the Cream’⁷—All friends well & unite in love & sympathy.

That our Heavenly Father may watch over, guide, guard & keep you & restore you soon again in health & safety to home & friends, is the constant & fervent prayer, of,

Your devoted Mother.

A letter of credit, for one thousand dollars has been sent by M^r Friday⁸ to James M. Coulter⁹—House of Jas. Haslett & Co. Balt. upon their apprising you of it, you can draw upon them, for whatever you may need.—One has been sent also, by M^r Caldwell¹⁰ to M^r Coleman, of New York

¹ Julius Christian Sosnowski (d-1876), ordnance sergeant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion, later assistant surgeon, General and Staff Officers Non Regimental Enlisted Men C.S.A., son of Josef and Sophie Wentz Sosnowski, married Susan Grace Townsend in 1867 and practiced medicine at Edisto Island, South Carolina.

² Bud Fant.

³ Deuteronomy 33:25.

⁴ Alexander Ross Taylor, Jr. (1845-1865), was called Alex, pronounced Alick, private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry. He was a courier for General M. C. Butler and was wounded in the leg at Morris Island. Alex died after a short illness in July 1865 a few weeks before his wedding to a girl named Fanny. He was buried in his wedding clothes in the grave intended for his brother William.

- ⁵ Edward Carrington Elmore (b-Abt. 1826), John Taylor's cousin, treasurer of the Confederate States, son of Benjamin T. and Sarah Aurora Brevard Elmore.
- ⁶ A slave.
- ⁷ A cream colored horse that may have been in Virginia with John.
- ⁸ James K. Friday, a grocer in Columbia.
- ⁹ James M. Coulter, of Baltimore, an employee of James Hazlett & Company Importers and Dealers in Foreign Liquors.
- ¹⁰ John Caldwell, president of the Exchange Bank of Columbia.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Sept 18th. 1863

My dear Son

Your letter of the third of Sept. just rec^d has been a great relief & satisfaction to us—You may imagine the pleasure it gave us, to look once more upon your hand writing—for this is the first we have rec^d from you since June. The only definite information we have had concerning you since Fant's return, was through a letter from Lieut. Knight, (dated 29th. of Aug.) saying that he had parted from you on the first, at Johnson's Is. & wrote by your desire to let us know, that you were quite well. I suppose you have not rec^d my letters, as they were directed to Fort Delaware & Chester Hospital, where we heard you had been sent. Letters of credit have been sent to different firms in Baltimore & Philadelphia. Probably you can get all you want from M^r Coleman.* I hope some arrangement will soon be made for the exchange of Officers & that we will soon have the pleasure of welcoming you home once more. We are spending the summer at the Hill. Your Father's health is better than usual. Alick was injured by the bursting of a shell on Morris Is. but is now at home & doing well—Albert¹ talks constantly of you, Aunt Eloise² & family & Aunt Sally³ are with us. All friends well. Write whenever you can. All unite in much love. May a God of love & mercy, bless & keep you, my dear child, & soon restore you again to home & friends.

Your own devoted Mother.

*^M Jack Caldwell has written to him twice. Draw upon him for any amount under 500.

- ¹ Albert Rhett Taylor (1860-1924), John Taylor's youngest brother became a farmer in Lexington County, South Carolina. He married Virginia Lee Geiger (1872-1961), daughter of Edward Washington and Elizabeth Gardner Geiger of Lexington County. They had two children, Alexander Ross Taylor (1908-1942) killed in World War II, and Virginia Hayne Taylor Hafley (1913-1948).
- ² Eloise Hayne Martin (1818-Aft. 1880), John Taylor's aunt, daughter of William Edward and Eloisa Davidson Brevard Hayne, was the wife of William Edward Martin (1815-1869).
- ³ Sarah Cantey Taylor Rhett (1808-1884), John Taylor's aunt, daughter of John and Sarah Cantey Chesnut Taylor, was the wife of Albert Moore Rhett (1810-1843) and mother of John Rhett.

Alexander Ross Taylor to his son John

The Hill Sept 21st 1863.

My Dear Son

Yours of the 3rd & Lieut Knights are all we have heard of you since Fants return, it was cheering to hear that you were well & in good spirits, your Mother has written repeatedly & letters have been written to Philadelphia, Baltimore & New York to remit funds to you & one by same mail as this to J. S. Watson, to send you one hundred dollars & more as you need it—I would prefer your getting from this party than Coleman, that is if he remits the hundred, Mr. Tom Puryear¹ gave us this last & says he will do what he asks

We will get friends to do all they can to get you exchanged we hope 'ere long to have you at home with us—All of us are quite well & hope soon to see you—With much love from Mother, brothers & all I remain
Yr Affectionate Father

A. R. Taylor

¹ Richard T. Puryear, a clerk in Columbia.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her Son John

Columbia Oct. 25th, 1863

My dear Son

Your's of the seventh inst rec^d yesterday, was most welcome & cheered us very much. We began to be uneasy at your long silence, & feel truly thankful to hear of your welfare. Keep up a patient cheerful spirit

my dear child—Look to our Heavenly Father, who orders all things, & let us trust that this trial, irksome as it must be, will with His blessing, prove to be, one of the “all things, that will work together, for your best & highest good.”¹—I hope you will be able to get an over-coat—otherwise you must suffer in that cold climate. We look anxiously each day for any news, as to the exchange of officers—& hope they will soon make some arrangement.—Alick has recovered & returned to camp yesterday—your father & myself are well—so is dear little Albert, who talks constantly of “budda Johnnie.” Gen^l Hampton has appointed Tom Taylor one of his aides. John Rhett, George² & Walter³ were all well when we heard last. Aunt Sally & Aunt Eloise & family are still with us.—Grandmother⁴ & Aunts⁵ with cousin Eloise.⁶ Alexina,⁷ Flora⁸ & Lawrence⁹ have gone to Florida.—Aunt H’s¹⁰ family are well except Minnie,¹¹ who has had diphtheria—Your trunk was left with Ed. Elmore—I have sent for it. Your father has bought you a new horse—the cream’ looks as well as ever.—Write often & I will do the same—God bless & keep you, my dear dear boy—much prayer is being offered in your behalf, & we trust a merciful God will not turn a deaf ear, to the voice of our supplications.

Ever your affectionate Mother.

¹ Romans 8:28.

² George Taylor.

³ Benjamin Walter Taylor (1834-1905), John Taylor’s first cousin once removed, surgeon 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Benjamin Franklin and Sally Coles Taylor, graduated from the South Carolina Medical College in 1858 and practiced medicine in Columbia. He married Mariana Heyward (1844-1907) in 1865.

⁴ Elizabeth Peronneau Hayne Hayne (1795-1875), John Taylor’s step-grandmother, daughter of William and Elizabeth Peronneau Hayne, was the second wife of William Edward Hayne.

⁵ Eliza Peronneau Hayne (1823-1865) and Susan Branford Hayne (1829-1895), John Taylor’s half-aunts, were the daughters of William Edward and Elizabeth Hayne Hayne. After the war, Susan was a teacher in Charleston.

⁶ Eloise Butler Hagood (1834-1920), John Taylor’s first cousin, daughter of Andrew Pickens Butler, United States senator 1846-1857, and Rebecca Harriet Hayne Butler, married Johnson Hagood on December 21, 1854. They had one son, Pickens Butler Hagood.

⁷ Alexina Jessie Taylor (1842-1918), John Taylor’s first cousin, daughter of William Jesse and Alexina Jessie Muir Taylor, married Albert Elmore in 1869.

⁸ Flora Taylor (1844-1878), John Taylor’s first cousin, daughter of William Jesse and Alexina Jessie Muir Taylor.

⁹ Lawrence Whitaker Taylor (1848-1927), John Taylor’s first cousin, son of William Jesse and Alexina Muir Taylor, married Katie Burroughs in 1869. After the war, Lawrence was a farmer living in Columbia.

¹⁰ Harriet Chesnut Taylor Elmore (1803-1865), John Taylor’s aunt, daughter of John and Sarah Canley Chesnut Taylor, wife of Franklin Harper Elmore (1799-1850).

¹¹ Mary Susan Elmore (1842-1922), John Taylor’s first cousin, daughter of Franklin Harper and Harriet Taylor Elmore, married William Jesse Taylor in 1869.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Nov. 9th. 1863.
Saturday

My dear Son

I wrote to you about two weeks ago by the flag of truce boat, but thinking, it very doubtful, whether you have rec^d it—I take advantage, of the offer of a gentleman, about to sail for Bermuda, to try & send a letter, in that way.—We rec^d your’s of the seventh of Oct. & were truly thankful to hear of your welfare—I hope you have been able to get an over-coat—I cannot bear to think of your being without one, in that severe climate. Oh that it would please God, to put an end, to this cruel war! We all keep well—Aunt Eloise & family & Aunt Sally are still with us. John R.¹ is at home on furlough—Albert E.² was here last week—All well at Aunt H’s—We hear often from Alick—he has quite recovered. I wish you could see Albert in his pants—he talks constantly of “budda donny.” Your father has bought you a horse—the ‘cream’ is here & looking as well as ever. Jack³ is not very well—his flame is to be married soon to Jesse A.⁴—Your friend Jennie Martin,⁵ died of diphtheria, a few days ago—It will be a dreadful blow to her parents!—Poor Sallie⁶ feels it very deeply—Uncle Isaac’s⁷ family are well—Frank E.⁸ has another daughter,—Write often as you can, it is a great comfort to us to hear from you.—We heard the other day, that you had been exchanged & were on your way home! You may imagine our disappointment.—God bless & keep you, my dear dear boy—That He may soon restore you to home & friends in health & safety is the constant & fervent prayer of your affectionate Mother—

M^r Wm. Dougherty⁹ has made an arrangement by which you can draw upon M^r Hugh Sisson¹⁰ North St. Baltimore for any amount not exceeding five hundred dollars.

¹ John Taylor Rhett.

² Albert Rhett Elmore.

³ Probably a nickname for John Rhett.

⁴ Probably Jesse Adams.

⁵ Jennie Martin (1844-1863), daughter of John V. and Harriet Bostick Martin, niece of William E. and Eloise Hayne Martin, died of diphtheria on November 2, 1863.

⁶ Sallie Martin (1845-1925), John Taylor’s first cousin, daughter of William E. and Eloise Hayne Martin, married Robert Cunningham Davidge (abt. 1840-1900).

⁷ Isaac William Hayne (1809-1880), John Taylor’s uncle, son of William Edward and Eloisa Davidson Brevard Hayne, attended South Carolina College, married Alicia Shubrick Trapier (1817-1885) in 1834, was a lawyer, attorney general of South Carolina 1848-1868, and a signer of the Ordinance of Secession. His son Edmund (1843-1862), a flag bearer, 1st Regiment South Carolina Infantry died at Gaines’ Mill, Virginia June 27, 1862.

⁸ Franklin Harper Elmore, Jr. His daughter was named May (1864-1867).

⁹ William Dougherty, a marble craftsman, was superintendent of construction for the Washington Monument from 1848 until worked stopped in 1854. He was in Columbia in 1863 working on the new state house. In September 1863, the contract with Dougherty and Hugh Sisson was cancelled by the South Carolina Senate effective January 1, 1864.

¹⁰ Hugh Sisson (1820-Aft. 1880) was a master marble craftsman with marble works on the corner of North and Monument Streets, Baltimore. Many of Baltimore’s famous white steps were done by Sisson’s stone cutters.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Dec. 1st. 1863.

My dear Son

We rec^d your very welcome letter (14th. Nov.) yesterday. I have never, at any time, since you were first captured, felt more anxious & troubled, about you, than I did yesterday morning. We had heard such accounts of the treatment of our prisoners, that I was feeling most depressed & miserable. The contented & hopeful tone of your letter, was quite reviving & restored cheerfulness once more, to our household. Thorn, also enclosed us, your letter to him, which contained things not mentioned in ours. I long to hear that you have actually rec^d the over coat & also that you are well supplied with flannels & woolen socks—I think you must need a quantity of clothing to keep you comfortable in that bleak climate. Rosa¹ & Sallie send love & will write soon. I have been suffering much with toothache & neuralgia, but am better again. Your father & Albert are quite well. We hear from Alick frequently—Albert² & himself are privates in the C.L.D.³ but were acting as couriers on Morris Is. Let Capt. Macbeth⁴ know that his wife & little boy are quite well—Your Mother’s heart yearns over you my dear child. May God Bless & keep you & soon restore you to us again in health & safety!

Yr. affect. Mother.

Your friend Walter was married on the 19th. to Joe Ann Yates⁵ & Ainslie to Cattie⁶ some weeks before.

¹ Rosa Ann Elmore (1846-1887), John Taylor’s first cousin, daughter of Franklin Harper and Harriet Taylor Elmore, married William Clarence Hanc (1839-1880) in 1866. Hanc was a farmer in Orangeburg County, South Carolina.

² Albert Elmore.

³ Charleston Light Dragoons.

⁴ James Ravenel Macbeth, Agnes Wallace Pearson Macbeth, and son James, Jr. Autograph, p. 80.

⁵ Walter Shields Monteith (1842-1908), private Company C 1st Regiment South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, later transferred to several other companies. He married Joe Ann Yates (1842-1899), John Taylor’s second cousin, daughter of David Saylor and Martha Ann Taylor Yates, on November 17, 1863. Monteith was a lawyer in Columbia.

⁶ Ainsley Hall Monteith (1840-Aft. 1880), quartermaster sergeant Company C 1st Regiment South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, later assigned to the quartermaster department in Columbia. He married Catherine “Cattie” Trezevant Yates (1841-1881), John Taylor’s second cousin, daughter of David Saylor and Martha Ann Taylor Yates, in October 1863. In 1880, he was living in Tennessee and was a bookkeeper for the United States.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Dec. 24th. 1863.

My dear Son

I wrote to you on the first of Dec. in answer to your’s of the fourteenth of Nov.—which gave us all much pleasure—We have been hoping to hear again, but have been disappointed. This severe weather makes us think more than ever of you. It must be bitter indeed where you are—May a merciful God give you strength to bear the hardships & privations to which you are subjected; shield you from all evil, & sanctify all to your

soul's best good! We are all well. Alick has been on a visit since I wrote last—Albert too was up, for a few days—They are now at Accabee¹ seven miles from the city— Aunt Eloise & family have taken rooms at the Seminary²— That building is now filled with refugees. I wrote you of the death of Jennie Martin—It was a terrible blow to her friends!—Aunt Sarah³ has returned to Montgomery, & Aunt Sally to Stirling. Aunts Eliza & Susan have been with us—They have purchased a house in Sumter & hope soon to move into it. Aunt H.'s family are well. Manning⁴ has been with us—he expects to return to Va, next week. He is Chaplain to the first-reg⁵. S.C. Cav. Capt. Lipscomb.⁵ I sent to M^{rs} M^cB.⁶ to inquire particularly after herself & child & to know whether she had heard from her husband—“They were quite well & she had rec^d a letter two days ago—he had mentioned that you were well”—You ought always to mention each other, that we may hear oftener. I trust you have rec^d the overcoat & have supplied yourself with all the comforts allowed you. Your father unites with me in much love. Our hearts yearn over you, my child & we truly long to see your face once more! Let us still hope & pray!

Your Affectionate Mother.

¹ Accabee was a plantation on the Ashley River in Charleston County.

² Columbia Presbyterian Theological Seminary was opened to refugees during the war. The seminary building, designed by Robert Mills in 1823, is today preserved as the Robert Mills House on Blanding Street. In 1927, the seminary moved to Decatur, Georgia.

³ Sarah Aurora Brevard Elmore (b-Abt. 1800), John Taylor's distant cousin on his father's and mother's side, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Kershaw Brevard, was the wife of Benjamin T. Elmore. She was raised by her first cousin Sarah Chesnut Taylor, John Taylor's grandmother. Because of this close relationship with the Taylor family, she was considered an aunt.

⁴ Manning Brown (1827-1892), John Taylor's first cousin, chaplain 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of John G. and Rebecca Taylor Brown, was a minister in the Methodist-Episcopal Church. He married three times: Elizabeth Ann Deveaux, Rebecca F. Green (d-Abt. 1863) on February 5, 1862, and Mary Elizabeth Palmer (1843-1925) in December 1864.

⁵ Thomas J. Lipscomb, captain later colonel 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry.

⁶ Agnes Macbeth, wife of Captain James Ravenel Macbeth.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Jan. 12th. 1864.

My dear Son

It seems a long long time, since we have heard, from you. The last letter rec^d was dated the 14th. of Nov.—& the very severe weather we have had for three weeks past, has made us sad & anxious about you. I have written twice since, on the 1st. & 24th. of Dec.—We have heard of you, as being well, thro' Capt. M^cBeth, who has been very thoughtful in mentioning you, in his letters to his wife. We had a visit last week from Wm. Tradewell,¹ who told us that he had left Johnson's Is. the middle of Nov. for Pt. Lookout & was among the returned prisoners on the last flag of truce boat. It was a comfort to us, to see any one, who had been with you. Alick was quite well, when we heard a few days ago—tho' the duties now, are hard & the weather severe. They are at Accabee Ferry. He says the 'old cream' looks as well as ever, they have no hard riding to do. John Elmore² is in the City, & is often with them. Aunt Sally is still at Stirling. Charles³ has come on, with John's horses. Manning has returned to Va. he is Chaplain to the 2d. S.C. Cav. & I trust is doing much good. Aunt Eloise & family dined with us on Saturday. I wrote you, they had taken rooms at the Seminary (now filled with refugees). Robbie⁴ is in the Arsenal.⁵ Vince⁶ is now here on furlough. Brevard⁷ has been admitted at the Citadel, Trapier⁸ is still at school. We have never rec^d your trunk—it was either lost or stolen. I hope you have supplied yourself with every comfort allowed you, particularly warm clothing. All well at Aunt Harriet's & Uncle Wm.'s.⁹—I have just sent to M^{rs}. M^cBeth's—herself & child are quite well. Rosa wrote to you some weeks ago. Your father stands the cold well. Albert is the picture of health & is the liveliest child I have ever seen. He is frisking about me while I write & says “I would be so glad to see budda Johnnie,” “Ma, give him a kiss”—All unite in much love.—God bless & keep you my dear child, & may He soon open a way, for your return to home & friends—prays, your affectionate Mother.

¹ William Tradewell or Treadwell, private Companies C and I 1st Louisiana Cavalry captured at Mill Springs, Kentucky May 30, 1863, sent to Johnson's Island June 14, 1863, left for Point Lookout October 1863, paroled and exchanged in December 1863.

² John Taylor Elmore (b-1832), John Taylor's cousin, son of Benjamin T. and Sarah Brevard Elmore.

³ A slave.

⁴ Robert Hayne Martin (1847-Aft. 1880), John Taylor's first cousin, private Company B South Carolina Military Institute Cadets, son of William E. and Eloise Hayne Martin. After the war, he was a merchant in Charleston and New York.

⁵ The Arsenal, in Columbia, was established in 1842 to train freshmen for The Citadel. In 1861, The Citadel and The Arsenal were combined and called the South Carolina Military Institute.

⁶ Vincent F. Martin (1843-1926), John Taylor's first cousin, 1st lieutenant 1st Regiment South Carolina Infantry, later captain Brook's Battalion of Galvanized Soldiers South Carolina Infantry, son of William E. and Eloise Hayne Martin. After the war he was a merchant in Fork, Anderson County, South Carolina. His wife's name was Lucia.

⁷ Robert Brevard Hayne (1848-1883), John Taylor's first cousin, cadet at The Citadel in 1864, son of Isaac William and Alieia Trapier Hayne. In 1880, he was an accountant in Charleston living with his mother.

⁸ Paul Trapier Hayne (1846-1921), John Taylor's first cousin, son of Isaac William and Alicia Trapier Hayne, married Mattie Irvine (1850-Aft. 1880). He was a librarian in Greenville, South Carolina.

⁹ William Jesse Taylor, Sr. (1806-1877), John Taylor's uncle, son of John and Sarah Cantey Chesnut Taylor, graduated from South Carolina College in 1826 and from the Litchfield Law School in Connecticut in 1828. He was a lawyer in Columbia and Camden, a planter in South Carolina and Mississippi, and a member of the South Carolina Senate 1845-1852. He married first Alexina Jessie Muir (1810-1857) and in 1861, Mrs. Agnes Wallace Barton (1820-1884) widow of Dr. Edward Hall Barton (1795-1859). William's son, James Hunt (1847-1862), a flag bearer 1st Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was killed at Gaines' Mill, Virginia June 27, 1862.

John Taylor to his mother “Mrs Alex R. Taylor Columbia So. Ca.”

Johnson's Island, Febr'y. 11th '64.

My Dear Mother,

Thank you for yours of Jan. 12th rec^d on the 6th. Those of Dec. 1st & Dec. 24th too have been rec^d. Since the letter you referred to as the last gotten from me I have already written five times; on about Nov. 30th, on Dec. 12th & 25th, & on Jan. 13th & 28th—I do not know why you do not hear from me oftener—I am very sorry to hear my trunk was lost as had on my worst of everything & consequently have lost my best. Every letter I had gotten from you since my arrival in V^a was in it, besides the needle-book & knife of Brother's¹ which you gave me & which I would not have had lost for a great deal—I am glad Tradewell was sufficiently thoughtful to call on you, also that he was so fortunate as to be returned—About 350 officers left here day before yesterday—We do not know to what point they were sent,—nor can we tell whether any others will leave or not. As I did the last time I wrote, & will do whenever I write & the stamps can be gotten, I enclose you a stamped envelope directed to myself. I suppose you find it difficult to get stamps & I have been surprised to find your letters prepaid. Capt. Macbeth² is quite well. So is Albert Goodwyn.³ Much love to Father, & all, & a kiss for Albert.

As ever, your affectionate Son,
John.

¹ William Hayne Taylor.

² J. Ravenel Macbeth was seriously ill in the prison hospital for two months according to James Campbell's letter of January 17, 1864 (Johnston, 148). To show his appreciation for the care he received, Macbeth donated a large sum of money to the hospital and worked there as a nurse.

³ Albert Taylor Goodwyn (1842-1931), John Taylor's cousin from Alabama, lieutenant Company K 58th Regiment Alabama Infantry. Autograph, p. 72.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Feb^{ry} 21st. 1864.

Thank you, my dear child, for your's of the 28th of Jan^{ry} rec^d a few days ago—The contents sent a thrill of joy into our sad & anxious hearts—It is the greatest of all comforts to know, that you have laid your burden at the foot of the Cross, & have “cast your cares upon Him who cometh for you”¹ “The Lord reigneth”² & since you have made your peace with Him we feel that all must be well for “He doth not willingly grieve or afflict the children of men”³ & has promised that “all things shall work together for good, to them that love Him.”⁴—I fear your suffering has been very great, in this bitter weather. I was so much in hopes that we would have no more very severe weather, but yesterday morning was the coldest of the season.—How is it my dear child, that you are without an overcoat? You wrote on the 14th of Nov. that you had written to N.Y. for one & hoped to receive it in a few days.—I cannot think it possible the prison authorities would object to the

prisoners making themselves as comfortable as they can, at their own expense, in that terrible climate—I feel this weather intensely, nervously on your account my poor child! for you are ever in our hearts, day & night, & with almost every breath, is prayer offered in your behalf—Your Father & Brothers are well. All unite with me in much love & sympathy—yr. affec^{ate} Mother

¹ 1 Peter 5:7.² Psalms 97:1.³ Lamentations 3:33.⁴ Romans 8:28.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Feby. 26th 1864.

My Dear Mother

I answered your's of Jan. 12th, rec^d on Feby 6th, on the 11th. A day or two afterwards I heard from Thorn—It was my first letter from my command—He however gave but little news—I suppose because he feared his letter would not be allowed passage thro' if it contained such. I was glad to hear the vacancy in my Co. had been filled as it was. I not only liked him better than any other, likely to fill the place, but also thought him better qualified. I was not surprised at Lieut. Wolfe's¹ death, he had been sick so often in Camp. I have thought for some time that he was consumptive. My first letter to Mr. Watson I am satisfied was never rec^d, & I wrote again a few days ago for an over-coat & several other articles. I hope to receive them soon. The weather, for some time past, has been much warmer than usual—The ice on the lake has nearly all melted away, the ground is dry, & the sun bright. I continue in good health & spirits—In your last you said that Charles had come on with John's horses. I did not understand it. His reg^t is not dismounted I hope, or he resigned? I rec^d & answered Rosa's letter some time since. I have never heard from Sallie. Jack seems to have forgotten me entirely. I have never once heard from him. I suppose the young ladies engross almost all of his time—Love to Father brothers & all

Your affect. Son, John.

P.S. Enclosed you will find envelope stamped & directed—

¹ James D. Wolfe (1835-1863), 1st lieutenant Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion died in 1863 of illness.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia March 8th. 1864.

My dear Son,

Your's of the 11th of Feby^{ry} was rec^d a few days ago. Your last three letters have come quickly. It is a great comfort to us to hear from you, & we hope you will continue to write often. I wrote you about a fortnight ago, in answer to your's of the 28th of Jan^{ry}—That letter brought a thrill of joy to our hearts, to which they have long been strangers—Truly our God is a prayer hearing & a prayer answering God! Oh for grateful hearts to praise Him as we ought!—You will be sorry to hear of the death of Jimmie Owens¹—he died of pneumonia at Bottom's bridge—And, Atchie Tradewell² is a prisoner!—So uncertain are all things in this life! We are glad to hear of Capt. M^cBeth's recovery. His wife is in Newberry—We heard of you last week thro' Capt. Hinnant,³ who is a nephew, of our neighbor D^r Kennedy.⁴ Do mention him in your next. We heard from Alick this morning, he is to be up on Thursday. We have been much cheered by the renewal of the exchange of prisoners, & cannot but hope that the prayers for your release & safe return home are about to be answered. Cousin Eloise & Butler⁵ have been with us.—All friends well—Albert always claims the kiss you sent him, & sends many in return. Yr father unites with me in much love—Next Friday is your birthday—It shall be spent in special pleadings to Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, in your behalf.—Yr. Affec^{ate} Mother.

¹ James Douglas Owens, private Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion died February 1864.² Alister G. Tradewell, captured January 1864 in James City County, Virginia, sent to Point Lookout, Maryland, was released in November 1864. He returned to his unit and was present at the surrender.³ John Hinnant (1843-Aft. 1901), captain Company C 12th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, from Winnsboro, South Carolina, lost his left leg and was captured at Gettysburg. He was exchanged March 1864. Hinnant was a farmer in Fairfield County, South Carolina. His wife's name was Margaret.⁴ A. W. Kennedy, a physician with an office on Laurel Street, Columbia, South Carolina.⁵ Pickens Butler Hagood (b-1857), son of Johnson and Eloise Butler Hagood, graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1878. In 1880, he was a law student living with his parents in Columbia.

John Taylor to his mother

Stamped envelope enclosed

Johnson's Island, March 10th '64.

My Dear Mother,

Thank you for both yours of 9th & that of 21st of last month, which have been rec^d on the 26th. I was exceeding glad to hear that Father's health was better. The overcoat I wrote for has never been sent because we are allowed to write to none, besides relations, for boxes; & you know I have none of them. I wrote to Mr. Watson again on Feb 23rd but suppose my letter was not allowed to go as I have rec^d no answer. However I shall never be sorry I have no relations here even tho' I learn it at some little cost of comfort. I continue in perfect health, but it is of a different kind from that in Dixie. I never in my life before took so little exercise as I have taken since in prison. Eating, sleeping & a little reading occupies almost all of our time. Macbeth is very well. He looks much better than he did some time ago. The lake has not been frozen over for some time, tho' there are still blocks of ice floating about. With the exception of two bitter spells the winter has seemed no colder than those in Va. When I confine my-self to subjects upon which I am allowed to write & of them select such as I feel disposed to write upon, I find I can scarcely do more than fill out my page. Much love to Father, Brothers & all.

Ever yr. affect. Son,
John.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia March 16th. 1864.

Thank you my dear Son, for your's of the 26th. of Feb.—Your last four letters have come very quickly—it is such a comfort to us to hear often, & we feel truly thankful that you continue well—We are pleased that you have written again to M^r Watson & hope you will get the articles you wrote for. The idea of your being without an overcoat has distressed us greatly—It seems almost a miracle, that your life & health have been preserved, with an insufficiency of warm clothing, in that Siberian climate. Let us then, "thank God & take courage."¹ Do not spare expense in getting anything that may be a comfort or convenienc to you. Lt. Boyles² & Capt Clyburne³ were among the returned prisoners last week—& we hope it will not be very long before your turn comes—Alick came up, on furlough, a few days ago—he officiated yesterday, as pall bearer, for the first time, at the funeral of Ben Gibbes,⁴ who died of brain fever. He was elected Lt. in his brother Alston's⁵ Co. Johnson's Army,⁶ about a month ago, but could not stand the hardships & exposure—You left him a little boy!—Rosa & Sallie are on a visit to Camden. Alick has gone for them today. Rosa has never rec^d your letter. Sallie has not had courage to write a letter subject to examination. John Rhett hopes to be home on furlough, the last of this month. Tom T.⁷ is here now. All friends well. Uncle Wm.'s Sandhill house was burned down last week. It was unoccupied—His daughters are still in Florida. I wrote you on the 8th. Albert sends a kiss & your father joins me in much love. God bless & keep you my dear boy & may He soon restore you to us.

¹ Acts 28:15.² J. R. Boyle, lieutenant Company C 12th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, from Ridgeway, South Carolina, was wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 1863.³ William Clyburn (1830-1900), captain Company G 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry, from Kershaw County, South Carolina, was captured at Morris Island July 1863.⁴ Benjamin Taylor Gibbes (1847-1864), 1st lieutenant Company D 16th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, son of Robert Wilson and Caroline Guignard Gibbes, The Citadel class of 1862-63, died at home on March 14, 1864.⁵ Washington Allston Gibbes (1841-1927), captain Company D 16th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, son of Robert Wilson and Caroline Guignard Gibbes, was wounded in Georgia in 1864. After the war he worked for the railroad.⁶ Joseph Eggleston Johnston (1807-1891) was commanding general of the Army of Tennessee December 1863-July 1864.⁷ Thomas Taylor.

John Taylor to his mother

Lake frozen over. Persons passing to & from Sandusky on ice—rather strange looking Spring to us. Macbeth very well.

Johnson's Island, March 24th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

Thank you for yours of 8th rec^d yesterday. I wrote on 10th in reply to yours of 9th & 21st of Feby. I hope you will continue to receive my letters regularly; if you do not, you may rest assured it is not because of my negligence—I was very sorry to hear of the death of Jim Owens, also of the capture of Atchie T. There are few who made as good soldiers as the former, & I have been in the same mess with him & have seen much of him, & shall miss him greatly if I have the good fortune to return to Camp, as I hope I may. Atchie T. will in all probability reach home before myself or at least as soon. I am sorry for him, for his time will be much more disagreeable than that of the officers, the numbers of men being so much greater. If you hear what prison he is at, let me know & I will write to him. Capt. H.¹ Dr. K's.² nephew left here with the party who went to Pt. Lookout. As prisoners will be sent from that place first he may return to Dixie at any time. We at this place will have to await patiently our time, which I still hope may not be many months distant. My birthday has passed. It certainly was not such as I would have chosen, yet it is possible that I learned a part of a lesson, learnt during imprisonment, which may be of more use in after life than any I had previously learned. Do not cherish the idea that I will be exchanged soon for should the present manner of exchange continue it will take many months to exchange all of us.

As ever yr. afft. Son, John.

¹ John Hinnant.

² A. W. Kennedy.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia April 1st. 1864.

My dear Son

Your very welcome letter, of the 10th was rec^d on Sunday—We are truly thankful to hear that your health continues good; but fear you have suffered much during the last severe spell, more trying, perhaps, than any weather, we have had during the winter. It distresses us, to think of you being without warm clothing, particularly an Overcoat, so essential in such a climate! M^r Christopher H.¹ has written to Mr. Duncan² of N.Y. to ask him to interest himself for you. We hope he may succeed in contributing in some degree at least, to your comfort. We must try & bear up cheerfully under the chastening hand of our God, remembering that "whom He loveth He chasteneth."³ He chastens us because He loves us. Let us rejoice in the thoughts that the chastening rod is in the hands of a living, loving Saviour, who did for us—A Saviour who "knows our sorrows,"⁴ & knowing our sorrows is a blessed guarantee that none will be sent, but what He sees to be merciful. Then let us watch & pray & patiently wait His time. The 1st. & 2d. Reg^t of Cav. have been ordered to S.C. for duty, & the 4th. 5th. & 6th. are to take their places. Manning & George came on Saturday—and we expect John R. today—The C.L.D.s belong to the 4th. so Albert & Alick will have to go. They will be here for a few days on their way out. Manning gives us a very pleasant account of the state of religious feeling in the army. All friends well—Albert says "tell budda Johnnie I want to see him so bad." Your father joins me, in much love. God bless you my precious child & may He give you that peace which the world can neither give nor take away! Your Affec^{ate} Mother.

¹ Christopher Hampton (1821-1886), son of Wade II and Ann FitzSimons Hampton, brother of Wade Hampton III.

² William Butler Duncan of Duncan, Sherman & Company, a private bank in New York.

³ Hebrews 12:6.

⁴ Exodus 3:7.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, April 6th '64.

My Dear Mother,

Thank you for yours of 16th rec^d on 30th. I answered yours of 8th rec^d on 23rd or the 24th, & wrote to Rosa on 30th or 31st—I made a mistake in stating in one of my letters to you that Capt. H., Dr. K's. nephew, had gone to Pt. Lookout—He is here still & very well when I last saw him. I saw Macbeth this morning. He

seems to have, & says he has entirely recovered from his indisposition—We were informed by authorities here on Mar. 24th that we would be allowed to write to any friends, whether relations or not, for anything not contraband; So I wrote again to Mr. Watson on that day & hope to hear very soon, perhaps today. Whenever you hear what Prison Atchie Tradewell is at let me know—I have written to him two letters guessing at his whereabouts, but as yet have rec^d no answer. I continue quite well, & have lately been 'killing time' by working in guttapercha. It is very tedious at best & with only the tools I have been able to get is almost doubly so. However I succeed tolerably tho' I have not taken a sufficient fancy to it to continue at it. We again have a Sutler & tho' his prices are high, we find him a great convenience—Much love to all & a kiss for Albert & tell him I dream of him very often. I am very glad Alex, John R. & Albert E. get home so often, tho' sure they do not enjoy themselves as I will whenever I am so fortunate. Yr. Affect. Son, John.

John Taylor to his mother

P.S. As usual stamped envelope enclosed—

Johnson's Island, April 18th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

On the day after I wrote you last, April 7th, I rec^d the box I wrote to Mr. Watson for; so I am now furnished with all necessary clothing. I did not send for an over-coat as Spring had come & I did not know whether the authorities would allow an over coat when so well supplied with other clothing. Contents of box cost \$68.60. I put down cost so that Father may know how much I get from Mr. W. Mr. W. had not rec^d any letter from me except the last, & sent things immediately on its' receipt. I heard from Atchie T. only a day or two ago. He was quite well; & asked me to say he was doing very well, as he had written home several times, but rec^d no answer. The weather here has now cleared tho' still cool. I hope it may continue so for the wet rainy spells we have had for some time are not at all pleasant to prisoners with whom one of their principal enjoyments is fresh air. Now it is our own fault if we do not have a plenty—If differently situated we might enjoy our view of the lake & bay (Sandusky), but as it is I believe none of us fully appreciate it or any thing of the kind. Much love to Father, brothers & all.

Ever your affect. Son
John.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia April 24th. 1864.

Thank you, my dear Son, for your's of the 24th. just rec^d—a month in getting here! No letters from any of our prisoners have reached here in that time. I saw M^{rs} M^cB. a few days ago. She had not heard & hoped her husband was at Pt. Lookout. Our faith & patience have been sorely tried, but we know that "the Lord reigneth" & "He doeth all things well."¹ The immense freshets in the James R.² together, probably, with other causes which we are not aware of, have occasioned great delay, in the exchange of prisoners. I trust it will now progress more speedily. I wrote you on the 16th. of March & 1st. of April. Alick is here & hopes to remain ten days longer, until his Reg^t reaches Richmond. James A.³ & Wade M.⁴ are with him. The 1st. & 2d. Reg^{ts} are here on their way to the coast. The ladies gave them a grand Barbecue on Friday. D^r Palmer⁵ addressed them & Gen^l H.⁶ answered. There were several thousand soldiers present. John R. is here—Your father & all friends are well. Albert as bright as ever. I have never known so cold & late a spring—We have had no warm weather yet. I have not been able to hear what prison Atchie T. was taken to—I think to Pt. Lookout—Manning is still with us.—God bless & keep you my precious child—that He may soon release you & restore you again to home & friends, in health & safety, is, the constant & fervent prayer of, your affectionate Mother.

¹ Mark 7:37.

² The James River.

³ James Adger (1845-1873), private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of William and Margaret Hall Moffett Adger of Charleston.

⁴ Wade Hampton Manning (1845-1911), private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of John Laurence and Susan Hampton Manning. He married Kate Mclean, lived in Columbia, and was private secretary to the governor.

⁵ Benjamin Morgan Palmer (1818-1902), born in Charleston, a Presbyterian minister, a teacher at Columbia Theological Seminary, and minister of the First Presbyterian Church of New Orleans.

⁶ Wade Hampton.**John Taylor to his mother**

(Macbeth very well)
My Dear Mother,

Johnson's Island, April 25th '64.

Many thanks for your very welcome letter of the 1st rec^d on Saturday evening. I suppose Albert E. & Alex are glad to get to Va. I am sure they are if they are as tired of the coast service as I was. But such as it is I expect it will be quite a relief, to those who have had so much hard riding to do, at least for a while. I am much obliged to Mr. Christopher H. for what he has done, but fear, unless his friend has very great influence, he can do very little. I understand many here have prominent & influential friends trying to do what they can for them, but only three that I know of have ever had anything effected. Some 150 odd of the prisoners confined here left us last Friday—almost all sick or wounded. Lt. Shuler¹ was among the number. It is said they are to be exchanged immediately. I wrote you on the 18th mentioning the arrival of box from Mr. Watson. Do let Mr. Tradewell² know his son Atch is doing very well at Pt. Lookout. He has written home several times but rec^d no answer. Tell Alex to write to me when he gets settled, & give me the news. The weather mild & pleasant. Capt H. Dr. K's nephew, was also one of the fortunate few who went off. Much love to Father, Albert & all. Thank Albert for his message. As usual envelope enclosed—

Your affect. Son, John.

¹ P. H. B. Shuler, 1st Lieutenant Company A 2nd Regiment South Carolina Infantry. Autograph, p. 76.² James Douthitt Tradewell (1810-1880), a lawyer and mayor of Columbia 1857-1858.**John Taylor to his mother**

Johnson's Island, May 9th '64.

My Dear Mother,

Many thanks for yours of April 24th rec^d yesterday. Those of March 16th & Apr. 1st were also duly rec^d I wrote to you on 6th 18th & 25th of last month. On 26th I got a letter from Mr. W. Butler Duncan. He asked my size, & said he would send the things Mr. H. had written him about, as soon as he rec^d my answer. As I had in the mean time been supplied by Mr. Watson with all necessary articles, I simply thanked him for his kind offer, but declined it on above grounds. I must say I have not been at all sanguine as to our early exchange; in fact I hoped but little until very lately. The papers seem to recognize the affair as fully arranged, but the progress is very slow, & seems even more so to us. I shall consider my-self fortunate if I get to "Dixie" before the Fall closes—If I arrive sooner I shall of course be so much the more agreeably surprised. I heard from Atch. T. yesterday—He had been sick, but was better. Macbeth is very well, but still here—As usual envelope enclosed, stamped & directed. Trees just commencing to bud, & the past two days very warm—Much love to Father & brothers & all—

Ever your affectionate Son,
John.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia May 22d. 1864.

My dear Son,

We were much cheered this morning by the sight of your handwriting. Your letters of the 6th, 18th, & 25th were all rec^d together. The flag of truce boats have been coming very irregularly & there has been no mail from Richmond for ten days past, until today. Yr. father saw Lt. Shuler & rec^d safely the little mementoes. They are most highly prized I can assure you. I felt as if I was touching something sacred when they were put into my hands—Alick expects to leave tomorrow to join his command in Richmond. Calbraith¹ & Wade M. left a few days ago—Manning expects to leave with Col. L.² in the morning for James Is. John R. left on Friday for Georgetown. Wm. Jesse³ was wounded slightly in the head last Saturday near Richmond—he wrote to Sissey⁴ himself—so doing well. Poor Johnny Mayrant⁵ was killed. Our successes in the late battles & the great number of prisoners taken on our side, have given us all new life & hope—I trust the exchange of prisoners will now go on more rapidly—& cannot help hoping that this terrible war will soon terminate. I am much pleased to hear that you at last rec^d all necessary clothing—M^r. T. has heard from Atchie. Aunt S. is with us—All friends

well. Rosa rec^d your's this morning. M^{rs} M^{rs}B. also rec^d one from her husband. Yr. father & Brothers unite with me in much love. God bless & keep you my precious boy.

Your affectionate Mother.

¹ Matthew Calbraith Butler.² Thomas J. Lipscomb.³ William Jesse Taylor, Jr. was shot in the head May 1864 at Drewry's Bluff, Virginia. The wound resulted in a gradual decline of his health and finally in paralysis 16 years later. He returned to his battalion in August.⁴ Probably one of William Jesse's sisters—Helen, Alexina, or Flora Taylor.⁵ John Gabriel Mayrant (1843-1864), sergeant Company C 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry, son of Robert Pringle and Frances Guignard Mayrant of Columbia, was killed May 1864 near Richmond.**John Taylor to his mother**

Johnson's Island, May 24th '64.

My Dear Mother,

Yours of Apr. 24th was rec^d on May 7th & ans^d on 9th. I did not forget that the 18th was your wedding-day & Albert's birth-day. Give A. a kiss & tell him it's his birthday present from me. I suppose of course he would prefer something more substantial, but as it is out of my power to send anything else he will have to content himself with that. I have seen my Battalion mentioned several times in the papers but nothing very definite could be gathered from them—I have seen no mention made of Alick's Reg^t tho' I thought from what you said that they would most certainly be in time. Has Mr. Hagood¹ & command the same position as formerly? By the way where is Frank E.? I have not heard a word of him for some time. Affairs here are pretty much the same, except that all talk of & fuss about Exchange is hushed & we hear nothing but remarks upon the present campaign—The trees look quite green. They were very slow in budding but after commencing they progress very rapidly. Macbeth is quite well. I do not know that Boats bearing flags of truce meet so often now as they have been in the habit of doing, but write anyhow, & shall continue to do so. As usual envelope enclosed. Much love to all.

Ever yr. affect. Son,
John.

¹ Johnson Hagood (1829-1898), brigadier general Confederate Army, born in Barnwell County, South Carolina, graduated from The Citadel in 1847, was admitted to the bar in 1850. In 1854, he married Eloise Brevard Butler. He was comptroller general of South Carolina 1876-1880, and governor of South Carolina 1880-1882.**Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John**

Columbia June 1st. 1864.

Thank you, my dear Son, for your's of the 9th of May, just rec^d—I wrote you on the 22d of last month, but feel very doubtful whether the letter has reached you. We had a long visit from Capt. Hinnant yesterday, & were quite pleased with him. Lieut. S.¹ has not been well since his return. Your father saw him & rec^d from him, the small articles, which are very precious. What made you decline M^r D.'s offer? I am sure you must need something, & it would have given both M^r D. & M^r H. pleasure to send you anything. You must not regard expense, we wish you to have everything, that may in any way, add to your comfort. Alick & Albert reached Richmond on Tuesday, & were in the fight near H. J.² on Saturday. We rec^d a telegram on Monday from J. Adger, saying that they were safe. He (James) was wounded slightly in the head.³ Two of the Co. were killed & several wounded & several missing, supposed to be captured—among the last were Lieut O'Hear⁴ & Josiah Bedin.⁵ Willie Jesse is now at home & doing well. Rosa wrote you last week—It is an anxious time for us all, but we must remember that "the Lord Reigneth," & put our whole trust & confidence in His mercy. Your father feels the warm weather—Albert is quite well & always comes for his kiss, as soon as he hears that we have rec^d a letter from you. God bless & keep you my precious child! Your affect. Mother.

I saw M^{rs} M^{rs}Beth a few evenings ago—she looked very bright & held up her finger⁶

¹ P. H. B. Shuler.² Hanover Junction in Hanover County, Virginia near Haw's Shop where the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac and the Virginia Central railroads cross.

³ James Adger (1845-1873) was wounded May 28, 1864 at Haw's Shop. He was standing near his friend Arthur Robinson when Robinson was killed by a shot through the head. The same bullet then hit Adger's head. According to Wells, the wound eventually caused his death (Wells, 43). He may never have returned to duty. In the spring of 1865, Adger was at his family's home in Pendleton, South Carolina because of injuries. His name was listed on the Dragoons monument in Magnolia Cemetery, Charleston "To The Heroic Dead."

⁴ James W. O'Hear, 2nd lieutenant Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, was killed at Haw's Shop May 28, 1864 when he stopped to help a wounded friend and refused to surrender.

⁵ Josiah Bedon (d-1864), private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, was mortally wounded at Haw's Shop May 28, 1864. A lawyer from Walterboro, South Carolina, he married Mary McLure in 1861.

⁶ Mrs. Macheth may have received rings made by her husband brought by Lieutenant Shuler or Captain Hinnant.

John Taylor to his mother

envelope enclosed as usual

Johnson's Island, June 9th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

Many thanks for yours of 22nd rec^d this morning. Our flag of truce mails too have been quite irregular lately. I wrote in answer to yours of Apr. 24th, on May 9th & again on May 24th. I am sorry to hear of John Mayrant's death & Willie Jesse's wound. I hope Willie will soon recover. I see Alick's command has been very busy. Atchie T. writes me that Martin,¹ Morris² & a new recruit, (all of my Co.) have been captured & are at Point Lookout. Ask Father to let their friends know where they are if he sees any of them. Is Calbraith B.³ a Brig. Genl.? I can not tell with any certainty who is Alick's Brigadier. I suppose Shuler gave Father a full description of our prison or "Bull Pen" as it is universally called by it's occupants. I never have room for such. I have lately made an agreeable change from a room containing some 60 men to a smaller & more quiet one in which there are now eight. I find it much less disagreeable. I am the only representative of the Palmetto State. Alabama has four, Va., Ga. & Arkansas each one. It seems rather strange that, tho' there are about 40 S.C. officers here, none have ever for eleven months occupied my room which up to this time has had from 50 to 100 men in it. Macbeth well. Love to all. I wrote Rosa on June 1st.

Your affect. Son, John.

¹ William N. Martin, private Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry).

² James Martin Morris.

³ Calbraith Bulter was promoted to brigadier general in September 1863 and to major general in September 1864.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, June 25th '64.

My Dear Mother,

I answered yours of May 22nd on the 9th. No Flag of truce mail since. I heard from Atch. T. who is still at Pt. Lookout that our Reg¹ had suffered quite heavily & that our Capt.¹ was among the killed. Capt Mc.K.² wounded & a prisoner. I suppose however that you have seen up to much later dates than I have heard. Mally Howell³ is at Pt. Lookout. Capt. F's successor will not I think fill the place so well as he did. The weather is so warm we can scarcely manage to do any thing except read papers. Five are taken in our room so we pass off a considerable portion of each day in their perusal. I wrote to Rosa on June 1st & will write to Sallie in a few days. I find patient waiting for letters from them is a loss. Let me know Alick's address & I will write to him. I am determined to hear from "Dixie" as often as possible. You have been my only correspondent & you can not imagine how much pleasure your letters have given. Macbeth is well. I told you in my last of my change to a less disagreeable room. Much love to Father & Brothers & a kiss for Albert. I suppose I should not know Albert if I was to see him he is so much changed.

Your affect. Son,
John—

¹ Campbell R. Frost, captain Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, was killed at Cold Harbor June 1864.

² Isaac G. McKissick.

³ Jesse Malachi Howell, captured near Haw's Shop May 30, 1864, sent to Point Lookout, Maryland, and released by November 1864.

John Taylor to his mother

Envelope enclosed as usual.

Johnson's Island, July 10th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

I wrote you, in answer to yours of May 22nd, on June 9th, again on the 25th & to Sallie on July 1st—We have rec^d no flag of truce mail lately, but I suppose we shall soon unless they are suspended until the present campaign ends. I see by the papers that our Cavalry in Va. is kept particularly busy.—I expect those reg^{ts} from the Coast find the contrast between the places quite considerable. How does Alex stand it? I hope he has not been hurt—let me know their direction & I will write to both Albert E. & himself. I see by the Personals of the N. Y. News that several acquaintances & persons whom I know by character are prisoners at Pt. Lookout & Fort Delaware. Among them are Mr. Mally Howell & Hal Richardson¹ & one of the Bosticks.² I suppose you will scarcely visit Cashier Valley this summer—It can not be very safe or desirable at present, even tho' evcry thing else might suit—I wrote to Mr. Watson a few days ago for 30 dollars—When I get it I shall have gotten from him, including cost of clothes two hundred (200) dollars or very nearly that amount. Mr. Coleman has sent fifty—I write this so Father may know. My twelve months imprisonment ended on July 2nd—Love to All—

Yr. Affect. Son, John.

¹ Henry Warren Richardson (1844-1916), private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Henry Warren and Mary Maner Richardson, was captured near Cold Harbor May 30, 1864.

² Luther Robert Bostick (1844-1910), sergeant Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Benjamin Robert and Jane Maner Bostick, was captured in July 1864, sent to Point Lookout, and released in November 1864.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia July 12th. 1864.

My dear Son

It is a month since I have written & still longer since I have heard. No flag of truce boats have been coming in, so it seemed useless to send letters. I have concluded to write today anyhow, hoping that our Commissioner may fall upon some plan for exchanging mails. We have been in great anxiety & suspence about friends, during the fighting of the last two weeks—Alick has passed thro' great dangers, fatigue & exposure but so far, our Merciful Father has spared & preserved him. At Trevillian's Station his horse was killed under him & he was captured, but managed to make his escape a few hours after,¹ & when we heard last (on the 6th) he was still at the front, with his Gen^l at Stoney Creek on the Weldon R.R. He wrote you from Richmond about a month ago—His Co. having suffered severely—only six men & one commissioned officer being fit for duty. Many were captured, among them, J. Beden, Hal Richardson, L. Bostick, C. Prioleau². If you can learn anything of them, do let us know. J. Adger was brought home on a litter & staid with us some time. He is now recovering—Wm. J. is almost well. Albert, Tom T. Walter & George quite well. Lamar³ & J. Shoolbred⁴ wounded last Friday on John's Island. We miss your letters sadly but hope you are better off where you are. I wrote you of the death of Cpts. Frost & Doby.⁵ Col. P.H. Nelson⁶ was wounded & taken prisoner. Your father & Albert are well—Friends generally well—Sallie T.⁷ has a daughter called Grace. John R.... is at Mt. Pleasant. God bless & keep you my precious child! & may all these fiery trials thro' which we are passing be blessed to our soul's best good! Let us pray earnestly for an increase of faith, hope & love.

As ever, yr. devoted Mother.

¹ Albert Rhett Elmore served with Alex and told of his war adventures.

Upon one occasion, while carrying a dispatch in the battle of Trevilian Station, his horse was killed under him. He was a noted and beautiful rider and would never ride anything but a good horse. Being on foot he was soon captured. Never can I forget the delight we all experienced the next day when "little Alex" riding a Yankee horse with his tail twisted to one side came into camp, expressing his supreme disgust for "Twist

Tail," as he called him and vowing he would ride him only until he could either buy or capture "a horse fit for a gentleman to ride." The best part of it was that Twist Tail's former rider, a full-fledged Yankee cavalryman, was trudging along on foot, while Alex in the Yankee's saddle, pistol in hand was marching him to the provost marshal. He had managed to make his own escape and then, without arms even, seeing this fellow approaching, secreted himself in the bushes and stepping out suddenly, grasped the bridle of the horse, demanded the soldier's surrender, disarmed him, and took his horse and at the point of his (the Yankee's) own weapon marched him out of his own lines and landed him safely in a Confederate prison. Could anything be more gallant? (Elmore, Incidents 538).

² Charles Edwin Prioleau (1837-1864), private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Thomas Grimbail and Mary Hutson Ford Prioleau of the Charleston District, died May 30, 1864 at Haw's Shop, Virginia.

³ Thomas Lamar Stark (abt. 1844-1883), private Company A Cavalry Battalion Hampton Legion, son of Theodore and Eliza Cary Lamar Stark, married Alice Davidson and was a farmer in South Carolina and Florida.

⁴ John Stanynard Shoolbred (1842-1872), private Company B 2nd South Carolina Cavalry, a scout for General Butler, married Frances Hopkins Adams (1846-1895) in 1867. They lived in Richland County, South Carolina.

⁵ Alfred English Doby (d-1864), aide-de-camp to Brigadier General J. B. Kershaw was killed May 4, 1864 at the Battle of the Wilderness by "friendly fire" in the same volley that killed General Jenkins and wounded General Longstreet.

⁶ Patrick Henry Nelson, lieutenant colonel 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry Hagood's Brigade, was reported missing at Petersburg June 24, 1864, and his fate is unknown.

⁷ Sallie Elmore Taylor (1829-1919), John Taylor's first cousin, daughter of Franklin Harper & Harriet Taylor Elmore, wife of Thomas Taylor. Her daughter was Grace Elmore Taylor (1864-1866).

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia July 23d. 1864.

My dear Son

We have been hoping each day, for several days past, to receive a letter from you, as two flags of truce boats have arrived lately. The mails are now so irregular, that we can make no calculations on them. I wrote you on the 12th. I had not written before for a month. The last rec^d from you, was dated the 9th of May—We have just returned from the funeral of William Preston¹—he was killed near Atlanta. We have heard from Alick, up to the 13th. He was then in Richmond, with Gen^l B.² on a visit. Albert was also there—both well—No news has been rec^d yet of either M^r Beden or C. Prioleau—Mally Howell Luther B.³ & H. Richardson & many others are at Pt. Lookout.—Capt. Pearson⁴ died a few days ago, of fever—No doubt Capt Macbeth has been written to. His wife & child are well. Wm J. has nearly recovered & hopes soon to rejoin his command. Lamar S. was severely wounded on John's Is. he has been brought home, & is thought to be still in a critical condition. John R.'s Co. are now at Green Pond⁵, so is Manning. Aunt S. is with us. We expect Cousin Eloise next week—her husband is at Petersburg. I wrote you of the birth of Cousin Sallie T.'s baby—she has called it Grace.—Friends generally well & always inquire particularly after you. Your father is well. Albert is growing fast & talks a great deal about you. he is at present much taken up with the jennet.⁶ God bless & keep you my precious boy! Let us wait patiently & in the mean time hope & pray.—Yr. affec^{ate} Mother

¹ William Campbell Preston (1838-1864), major 1st Regiment South Carolina Artillery, son of John Smith and Caroline Hampton Preston of Columbia, was killed during the Atlanta Campaign on July 20, 1864.

² Matthew Calbraith Butler.

³ Luther Bostick.

⁴ John H. Pearson, captain Company G 24th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, a lawyer, commissioner of equity for Richland County, husband of Ellen Wallace Pearson and father of Agnes Macbeth, died July 21, 1864 of a congestive chill.

⁵ Green Pond, South Carolina, about halfway between Charleston and Savannah.

⁶ A small Spanish horse or a female donkey.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, July 25th '64.

My Dear Mother,

I was quite disappointed yesterday when the mail arrived to find no letter for me. This is my fourth letter since the receipt of yours of May 22nd (the last) on June 9th—The mail just rec^d is the only one since June

9th. They seem to be very irregular lately—However as the boat is reported to have gone up again I shall expect to hear in a few days. Macbeth got seven letters but in none of them was any reference made to any at (my) home—He is quite well. I understand from him that Shingler¹ is with the Infantry & Alex Haskell Col. of my Reg^t—I am surprised that such should have been done, but if Col. S. docs leave it I know no man who I should rather see fill the place than Alex H. The next time you write send me some thirty Confederate stamps—letters to soldiers I think would be more certain to reach destination when stamped & I wish to write to several. Heretofore I have heard from none but Thorn & from him but twice. I think Alex & Albert E. might have written without waiting for me to write first—Love to Father & Albert & all.

Your affect. Son, John.

P.S. July 26 Envelope enclosed as usual—J.

¹ William Pinckney Shingler, colonel Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion was going to be promoted to brigadier general but resigned in May 1864 over a disagreement with Jefferson Davis. He was made colonel Infantry Regiment Holcombe Legion on May 27, 1864.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia July 27th. 1864.

Thank you, my dear child for your's of the 10th. just rec^d. Sallie rec^d yours of the 1st. yesterday—(she had written to you a few days before.) It was a great relief & pleasure to us to hear, as we had not heard, since the receipt of your's of the 9th of May. I have written you five letters since that of the 22d. of May. We have had a most trying & anxious time, since then, but thank God! our nearest & dearest have been spared. As a family we have been signally blessed. I wrote you that Alick's horse had been shot under him; he was captured but managed to make his escape. He has passed thro' incredible dangers & hardships—thro' the mercy of God, was quite well when we heard last, on the 15th. He wrote you about the 1st of June. Direct to Richmond, Care of Gen^l M.C. Butler. Tom, Walter, George & Albert are safe. Wm. J. nearly well. Jas. Adger recovering. Wade¹ just got home—he has been ill with typhoid fever. Alex Haskell has recovered & returned to duty—he is Lt. Col. Holcombe Leg. I wrote you of the death of Capt. Frost—he was killed about 1st. of June, at the time A. H. was wounded. I wrote you a few days ago of the death of Wm. Preston, killed near Atlanta.—also of the death of Capt Pearson of fever. All well at Uncle I's² & Aunt E's³. Willie D.⁴ is engaged to M.J. White⁵—her brother⁶ (of the C.L.D.) is wounded & a prisoner. Joshua B.⁷ also a prisoner—Rosa has written several times. Little Grace Elmore Taylor grows finely. Frank is in Richmond. Lamar is better. Your father & Albert well. God bless & keep you, my precious boy! & may He grant you joy & peace in believing—
Ever, your affec^{ate} Mother.

¹ Wade Manning.

² Isaac William Hayne.

³ Eloise Hayne Martin.

⁴ William Dickenson Martin (b-1839), John Taylor's first cousin, son of William E. and Eloise Hayne Martin.

⁵ Mary Jane White (b-1840), married William D. Martin in 1866.

⁶ W. W. "Billy" White, private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, was wounded and captured at Haw's Shop May 28, 1864.

⁷ Josiah Bedon.

John Taylor to his brother Alex

Johnson's Island July 30th
Saturday Evening—

Dear Alex,

Thank you for yours of June 4th just received. It was much longer on the way than is usually the case, probably on account of the times in V^a having been so busy of late. I am very glad you have commenced writing & hope you will keep it up. "Dixie" letters as we call them are great treats to prisoners. I rec^d a greater number by the last mail than I ever got before. Two were from Mother, of June 1st & July 12th, one from Rosa, of May 25th, one from Thorn, May 28th, & yours. I was very glad to hear from Mother that you were so far unhurt. I was very anxious about you. Indeed I am still so & continually wish I was with you. Mr. Howell, L. Bostick & Hal Richardson were at Point Lookout not very long since & are probably there still. If you wish my horse take him, or any thing else of mine you want. I believe we are in prison for the war, & altho' I had rather

lose a limb & be free, I now see no alternative, nor have I for some time. Tell Albert E. to write to me. He ought to have done so before. Tell Thorn if you see him that I have ans^d his letter. Guerrard Heyward¹ is I believe the only person here you know. Albert Goodwyn sends his best respects to Albert E. Give mine to all friends, & my love to all at home when you write.

Envelope stamped & directed enclosed

Your Affect. brother John.

¹ Jacob Guerard Heyward (1844-1888), 1st Lieutenant Company I 1st Regiment South Carolina Artillery. Autograph, p. 98.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia August 1st. 1864.

My dear Son

Your's of the 9th. & 25th. June, were rec^d yesterday. Your's of the 10th. of July, we rec^d last week, also your letters to Sallie & Rosa. I believe now, all of your letters have come to hand, except that written on the 24th. of May. I cannot bear to lose one, even tho' it may not be of a recent date. They are highly valued & most carefully treasured up. I wrote you on the 12th. 23rd. & 27th. of last month. No truce boat has come in this week. It is always so uncertain when they will come. In these sad & uncertain times, I know you must feel anxious to hear. Alick left Richmond on the 22d. to visit the grave of your beloved brother & if possible to bring home his remains. We have not heard from him since. His command are near Petersburg. Calbraith was appointed Brigadier, just after the loss of his leg at Brandy Station. His brigade is in Hampton's Division & has lost heavily since leaving here, last May. No news yet rec^d of the fate of M^t Beden, C. Prioleau, or, Col. P. H. Nelson. If you should hear anything, do let us know. I mentioned A. Haskell in my last, as being Lt. Col.—Since Col. Shingler's resignation, he is full Col. M^{rs} Macbeth & child are quite well—she heard from her husband yesterday, but the letter was of an old date.—Friends generally well. I am glad to see by the papers, that you have religious services in the prison—Oh may it please God to pour out His Holy Spirit upon you all! & grant you the spirit of prayer & of supplication!—We know that He is a prayer hearing & a prayer answering God! Your father joins me in much love—Albert sends a kiss—God bless & keep you! Your affec.^{ale} Mother.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia August 8th. 1864.

My dear Son,

Your's of the 24th of May, was rec^d yesterday—I believe, all your letters now, written up to the 10th. of July, have arrived safely. Probably they all came by the same boat, but the mail being so very large, the distribution of it, is slow. This is the fifth letter I have written you in the last month. Rosa & Sallie have also written—so, if you receive them you will have no reason to think yourself neglected. There is no calculating upon the 'truce boats' now—they are so uncertain, but I have determined to write often, & 'run the chance'. We heard from Alick on Saturday. He had returned from his scouting expeditions:—while in the neighborhood, he visited your beloved brother's grave, & sought out the kind family¹ at whose house he died. He came very near being captured while putting up a new head-board, at the grave. It is impossible to remove the remains at this time.—We expect Cousin Eloise tomorrow, her husband, now Brigadier, is at Petersburg. His brigade has suffered very severely—Frank is with Gen^l Rains,² in Richmond—Direct to Albert Co, K 4th Reg^l S.C.C. Butler's Brigade. Gen^l Archer³ staid a day & night, with James Chesnut,⁴ who is now Brig. Gen^l of Reserves, & living here. Edw. B.⁵ is his A.A.G. & Isaac⁶ one of his Aides—Your Father & Albert are well. God bless & keep you my precious child!

Your affectionate Mother.

¹ The family of James Skinker of Skinker's Neck, Caroline County, Virginia.

² Gabriel James Rains (1803-1881), chief of the bureau of conscription from December 1862 to May 1863, then in charge of torpedoes and the protection of the James and Appomattox Rivers, and the harbors of Charleston, Mobile, and Savannah. From Craven County, North Carolina, he resigned from the United States Army in July 1861 to join the Confederate Army.

³ James Jay Archer (1817-1864), brigadier general Confederate Army, from Hartford County, Maryland, was wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 1863. He was sent to Johnson's Island until June 1864 when he was one of the Southern prisoners sent to Charleston Harbor to be placed under Confederate fire in retaliation for the Southern treatment of Northern prisoners. He was exchanged in August 1864 and resumed his command. Archer died in Richmond in October 1864 as a result of the hardships of war. He and James Chesnut were classmates at Princeton.

⁴ James Chesnut (1815-1885), John Taylor's first cousin once removed, brigadier general, a signer of the Ordinance of Secession, aide to Jefferson Davis, son of James & Mary Cox Chesnut of Camden, South Carolina, graduated from Princeton in 1835. A lawyer, he was a United States senator 1858-1860 when he resigned to enter Confederate service. His wife, Mary Boykin Miller Chesnut (1823-1886), is well known for her diary, *Mary Chesnut's Civil War*.

⁵ Edward Henry Barnwell (1832-1908), assistant adjutant general for General James Chesnut, son of William Hazzard Wigg and Catherine Oshorn Barnwell, married John Taylor's first cousin Harriet Butler Hayne (1837-Aft. 1880), daughter of Isaac William and Alicia Trapier Hayne. In 1880, he was a cotton broker in Summerville, South Carolina.

⁶ Isaac Hayne (1839-1888), John Taylor's first cousin, aide to General James Chesnut, son of Isaac William and Alicia Trapier Hayne, married Ellen Parker Frost (1845-1912). After the war, he was a lawyer in Charleston.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Aug. 8th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

Many thanks for your letter of June 1st & July 12th both rec^d July 30th—By the same mail I heard from both Alex & Rosa—I have already ans^d their letters. I was exceedingly glad to hear of Alex's safety. I had been uneasy about him for some time, having seen accounts of so many Cavalry engagements in Va. I see by the N.Y. News that L. Bostick & Hal Richardson are at Pt. Lookout, Md, but have heard nothing of Col. Nelson, Bedon or Prioleau. Letter mentioning death of Cpts. Frost & Doby not rec^d. I wished nothing then but a valise, & because I thought from Mr. Duncan's manner that he did not expect to be repaid I did not accept that. I expect little Grace's advent caused a sensation in the family, & I think it probable she exercises a sway almost if not quite as despotic as Albert did. I am sorry you hope I am better off where I am. I can not but think that any-thing would be preferable to this hard & extremely disgusting life of passive endurance & almost sickening suspense, absolutely void of any redeeming quality—I can scarcely realize that Alex will be nineteen tomorrow. Macbeth well. Much love to Father & all, & a kiss for Albert.

Yr. affect. Son,
John.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Enclose 30 stamps

Columbia August 18th. 1864.

Thank you, my dear Son, for yours of the 25th. of July, rec^d yesterday—I do not understand why you have not rec^d my letters.—This is the 8th. I have written since that of the 22d. of May. I hope they may have come to hand by this time. Alick has written once, Sallie once & Rosa repeatedly.—We found Alick at home, on our return from Church, on Sunday. The most ragged, dirty, sun burnt fellow I have ever seen, but in fine health & spirits—He has come home on horse detail—(I wrote you, he had had his horse shot under him). Albert & several others came home for the same purpose. There are only four of the Dragoons, now left in Va. Alick staid five nights with the kind family near Fredericksburg. They recognized him, at once, by his likeness to your dear brother. The old lady died a year ago, but her daughter, grand-daughter & niece are still there. The Church has been burnt to the ground & many of the tombstones destroyed. Alick marked & put up, a new head-board to your beloved brother's grave, & came very near being captured, while there. It is impossible to remove the remains at this time.—The prospect, as to the exchange of Officers, seems brighter now than it has been for some time. For the present, as much as we long to see you, we think you are safer where you are. Cousin Eloise is with us. Her husband is still in the trenches at Petersburg. His brigade has lost heavily. Col. Dave Fleming¹ was among those blown up at Petersburg. Your father & Albert are well. All send much love. God bless & keep you my dear dear boy! Your affec^{ale} Mother

¹ David G. Fleming, colonel 22nd Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was buried alive July 30, 1864 at the Crater near Petersburg.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Aug^t 20th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

Many thanks for yours of 23rd & 27th of July just rec^d Yours of June 1st & July 12th I answered on Aug. 8th. You seem to have missed one of mine written in May & two in June. Am sorry to hear of deaths of Willie P.¹ & Capt. Pearson. I understand Alex H. is now Col. of my Reg^l & Col S.² removed to the Hol. Leg.

Inf^{dy}—I should think Col. S. would not relish the change, never having served with Infantry at all. Nothing new ever occurs here, so you must not expect my letter to contain any thing of interest. I am glad to hear of the welfare of Alex, Albert & others, & sincerely hope they may be attended by the same good fortune in future—I have thought it scarcely possible that so many of them should so far escape unhurt. I have been thinking of writing a letter to (little) Albert, but have not yet decided, not knowing my capabilities in that line. Tell Sallie I will answer hers of July 30th rec^d to day in a few days. Macbeth has heard of Capt. P's death—He is quite well. A kiss to Albert & my love to Father, Cousin E. & all. By the way you never mention crops, either generally or in particular. Wrote to Alex on 30th & Rosa on 1st—Where is Jack? Nobody speaks of him. Envelope enclosed. Your affect. Son, John.

¹ William Preston.

² William Pinckney Shingler.

John Taylor to his mother

En. En^d

Johnson's Island, Aug. 27th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

I wrote you on the 20th inst. on receipt of yours of July 23rd & 27th and a day or two afterward rec^d those of Aug 1st & 8th. I also got one from Rosa & another from Sallie—Have ans^d the latter. In my letter of 8th, I asked you to send me some Confederate stamps, & for fear my letter will not reach you mention it again. Am glad Alex had the pleasure of visiting the grave of our dear Brother—I had a hope that I might do so before leaving V^a. I hope Alex will write me of his visit. You seem surprised that we should have preaching—I am almost sure I must have mentioned it before but suppose my letter containing such never reached you. Prayer meetings frequent & we have a sermon or two every Sunday & occasionally during the week—When there were a good many Chaplains here besides the preacher-officers we had preaching going on at two places at the same time which made it much less crowded. Now, one can scarcely get a seat, within hearing, unless he goes very early. Got a letter from Atch. T. the other day—He is well—Also the Columbians there—Macbeth heard from his wife—Her last letter was of 5th inst. I believe—He quite well. Much love to Father, brothers, Cousin E. & all. Yr. affect. Son, John—

John Taylor to his cousin Albert, "Albert R. Elmore Co. 'K' 4th So. Ca. Cav. Richmond V^a"

Johnson's Island, Aug. 30th '64.

Dear Albert,

You will no doubt agree with me in thinking patient waiting a loss when exercised, as mine has been for so long a time, in awaiting a letter from you. Imagine if you can my situation in all it's many delightful variations, & remember that it is certain to continue many months & perhaps years; & come to the conclusion to devote a few minutes, "every now & then," say once a month, to me. You may be sure your letters will be fully appreciated & promptly ans^d. Wrote Alex on July 30th—Hope it has been rec^d. Hear from home regularly, from R.¹ in answer to every letter rec^d & S.² promises to write but only commenced last month. So Miss M. P.³ is married & Sallie⁴ is about to be. What has become of M. M.⁵ All seem to think "a bird in hand etc." Had serious intentions of reminding some of them of me by writing but gave it out. Nothing here to write you of—Write to me occasionally & give me the news from friends at home & in the army. Love to Alex & all at Home. Envelope enclosed.

Ever etc. John Taylor.

¹ Rosa Ann Elmore.

² Sallie Martin.

³ Mary Cancey Preston (1840-1891), daughter of John Smith and Caroline Hampton Preston, married Dr. John Thomson Darby (1837-1879) on September 28, 1864.

⁴ Sarah Campbell Buchanan Preston (1842-1880), daughter of John Smith and Caroline Hampton Preston, was engaged to General John Bell Hood, but broke the engagement in 1865 and in 1868 married Rawlins Lowndes (1838-1919).

⁵ Margaret Martin, daughter of William Martin a Methodist minister in Columbia.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Sept. 1st. 1864.

My dear Son

I have been sick for two weeks past, unable to write, I am now improving, & hope I shall soon be well again—Albert too, has been sick, but is better. Alex, wrote you a few days ago—& I also sent you a letter from Aunt Eliza. Rosa has written you a very long sealed letter, which she hopes you will receive containing all the gossip afloat among the young people. I was too sick to write, even if I had had much hope of you receiving a letter sent in that way.—I look upon it, as a special mercy that Alex has been allowed to be with us at this time. We have been saved such intense anxiety by it. You must not think, my dear child, that you have not had our deepest sympathy, under your great trials & many privations—because I felt thankful that you were "still a prisoner"—but many of our young men have been suddenly cut off, & so many others maimed & made sufferers for life, in this last campaign, that I could not but be thankful, that you were, at least, safe from yankee bullets. Ben Martin¹ past thro' yesterday on his way home; he was slightly wounded on the 21st.—Gen^l H.² had two horses shot under him, but escaped unhurt. His A.A.G. (Malony³) was killed. Uncle Theodore Brevard's⁴ son, Mays⁵ was also killed, on that day. Willie J.⁶ escaped unhurt.—Gen^l H.⁷ has been appointed Gen^l of all the Cavalry in Va. Gen^l B.⁸ appointed Maj. Gen^l Commands Hampton's Division, & Dunovant⁹ now Brig. Gen^l commands Butler's Brigade.—Robert Goodwyn¹⁰ died in Richmond on Monday—He joined your Co. only a few weeks ago—Your father & Alex are well, & join in much love. God bless & keep you, my precious child, & may He grant us soon a happy re-union.

Your affectionate Mother.

If it is practical to have your photograph taken & sent to us, do send it. Write to Mr. Watson whenever you wish funds—Do not hesitate at expense, for you know there is no way in which we could spend, that would give us more pleasure.

¹ Benjamin Martin (1842-1920), aide-de camp to General Hagood, Company H 1st Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was wounded near Petersburg on August 21, 1864. He married Catherine Maner (1851-1881) and was a farmer in Bull Pond, Barnwell County, South Carolina.

² Johnson Hagood.

³ P. K. Malony, assistant adjutant general to General Hagood, was killed near Petersburg August 21, 1864.

⁴ Theodore Washington Brevard (1804-1877), John Taylor's great uncle, son of Alexander and Rebecca Davidson Brevard.

⁵ Mays S. Brevard (d-1864), John Taylor's first cousin once removed, 3rd lieutenant 2nd Battalion Florida Infantry, son of Theodore and Caroline Mays Brevard, was killed on August 21, 1864 near the Weldon Railroad, Petersburg, Virginia.

⁶ After his head wound, William Jesse Taylor returned to his battalion in August, but the wound was unhealed. He was kicked in the head by General Hagood's dying horse. It was a few weeks before he recovered from this blow.

⁷ Wade Hampton.

⁸ Matthew Calbraith Butler.

⁹ John Dunovant (1825-1864), colonel 5th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, was promoted to brigadier general in August 1864.

¹⁰ Robert Howell Goodwyn, Jr. was mortally wounded near Ream's Station, Virginia in August 1864.

John Taylor to his mother

Env. enclosed

Johnson's Island, Sept. 8th, 1864.

I again thank you, my Dear Mother, for many letters rec^d last month. I wrote you on the 8th, 20th & 27th. By the last mail I rec^d one, but it was one from R, of a back date. The late war news causes a slight depression of the spirits of some of us, but I am in hopes when we hear particulars we will find it not so bad as we at first supposed. I was for a while quite anxious about Mr. Hagood, but from recent accounts it seems there was no cause for the rumors which were at first current. I tho't all along that Isaac was on his staff—I suppose, from what you said, Frank is one of Gen^l R's¹ staff. How is it George is in Richmond? Alex wrote me he did not return home with his Reg^t. The weather here is such that one might imagine it March. There is seldom or ever a change here in anything else. I see by the papers that a truce boat has arrived at Fort Monroe—I hope I may not be so unfortunate as to miss getting at least, one letter. Macbeth is well, & was a few days ago quite sanguine of an early exchange—possibly within three months. I can not agree with him. Wrote Sallie on 24th & R. on Sept. 1st. Much love to Father, brothers, Cousin E. & all. I am as anxious to hear from home as ever as Alex's command has been engaged so many times of late—Yr. affect. Son, John.

¹ Gabriel James Rains.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Sept. 9th. 1864.

Thank you, my dear Son, for your's of the 20th Aug. just rec^d. The very sight of your handwriting is cheering to our hearts. This is the fifth letter I have written since that of the 27th. of July which you acknowledge. Alex is still with us. The horse which he wrote you, he had purchased was stolen. George¹ left this morning, with the little sorrel your father brought from the coast.—The black pony died last spring. Fine horses are very scarce now. Alex & Albert expect to leave next week. They are enjoying their furlough very much. Jack is in Macfee's ² Co. at Green Pond. Lamar is still suffering dreadfully with his wound—he was shot thro' both hips, he sends his love.—You ask about the crops—your father has no overseer on either place. He goes over the river³ every day himself & old Abram⁴ takes care of things, & gives out the allowance. The negroes all enquire after you, & long for your return. Ely,⁵ takes charge of the Saluda place & gets on very well. We plant no cotton now, but plenty of provisions, & try to live within ourselves.—I hope you will write to N.Y. for whatever you may need or be allowed to receive, particularly an overcoat—I cannot bear to think of your being without one this winter as you were the last. As to M^r Duncan—we did not consider the obligation to him, but to Mr. C. H. who made the offer & w^{ld} certainly have been re-paid. M^r Watson I am sure you could depend upon. Do not regard expense—for it would give us real pleasure, to spend in any way that would contribute to your comfort. Dry goods are scarce & enormously high here—but it is wonderful how many things we can learn to do without. Our ladies wear heavy leather shoes & make or knit their own gloves & stockings—some even weave their own dresses. Albert takes great pleasure in bringing me your letters, & always claims his kiss. Your father, Aunt Sallie & Alex unite in much love. God bless you my precious child—Put your whole trust & confidence in His Mercy.

¹ A slave.

² James P. Macfie, captain Company H 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry.

³ The Taylor plantation was in Lexington County across the Congaree River from Columbia.

⁴ A slave.

⁵ A slave.

John Taylor to his brother Alex

Johnson's Island, Sept. 12th 1864.

Dear Alex,

I wrote to Mother on the 8th & on the 9th got her letter of Aug. 18th, in which she mentioned that you & A. were at home; but I suppose you will return before my letter reaches your Camp. I hope you appropriated everything of mine which could be of any use to you; if not, do not hesitate hereafter to take any thing of mine that you wish. There is nothing here which would be likely to interest you so you will excuse a dry letter. If you can find out any thing from my Co. let me hear, as I have not heard from it directly since they have been seriously engaged. I heard thro' your letter, which I answered on July 30th of the death of Capt. Frost. I wrote to Albert E. on Aug. 30th—I could wait no longer for him to write first. I am very sorry Mother regards my safety more than any thing else—No one except one who has experienced it can tell at all what prison life is—You will never know, I hope, how much you gained when you escaped. I am glad you visited Brother's grave, & the good people at whose house he died—I thought at one time I might have that pleasure, but I now think it scarcely possible for years to come, if ever at least. I enclose Envelope stamped & directed, & will do so whenever I write. Write me regularly, & I will answer promptly. I think you & A. might send me two per month between you, Love to those at home & best respects to friends.

Your affect. Bro.' John Taylor L^t 7 S.C.C.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Sept. 16th. 1864.

My dear Son,

I wrote to you on the 8th. in answer to your's of the 20th. of Aug. We have been looking anxiously since, for your promised letter to Sallie—no flag of truce boat, now for a fortnight. It is really tantalizing!

Alick is with us still. Albert E. has had a chill & fever—he took it last summer, in the low country & has been liable to it, ever since. They expect to leave on Monday—George (black) started last week with the little sorrel, your father bought on the coast. The horse which Alex purchased was stolen & good horses are hard to get now. The 'old cream' looks well & is still in great demand among the young ladies.—Your father is driving the horses he bought for you.—We have become acquainted with a Miss Crump,¹ who with many other ladies, came from Va. last spring—They are money-signers in the Treasury Department. Miss C. says she was well acquainted with you, & that you had a pocket handkerchief of hers, in your possession at the time you were captured—she is quite a pretty girl.—You would hardly know Lawrence—Tho' only sixteen he is as tall as his father—he has been elected 2d. Lieut. in a militia company.—Lamar has been pronounced out of danger, tho' he still suffers most dreadfully—his Sister Decca² is in consumption.—You have said nothing of your health for some time. I hope you take as much exercise as you can.—We think of you daily & hourly & oh how we long (with a feeling that seems at times, insupportable) to see your face once more! May God hear & answer our prays!—Oh may He give you strong faith to trust Him, even in the darkest hour! & grant you that peace which passeth all understanding! Albert sends a kiss & all unite in much love. Did you receive the 30 confederate stamps I sent you? Do send 10 U. S. stamps in your next.

¹ Either Pussy or Bettie Crump of New Kent County, Virginia.

² Rebecca Lamar Stark (1841-1865), daughter of Theodore and Eliza Cary Lamar Stark of Columbia.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Sept. 22nd '64.

My Dear Mother,

Yours of Aug. 18th rec^d on Sept. 9th the day after I had written you; & yours of Sept. 1st on last Sunday. Thank you for both of them, also for the stamps enclosed in the first. I was very sorry to hear of your being sick, & hope that by this time both Albert & yourself have entirely recovered. Aunt E's¹ letter rec^d yesterday—Will answer as soon as I can. Not very long ago, an order was issued to the effect that no letter of more than one page (28 lines) should be allowed to come in to a prisoner, consequently I can not receive Rosa's letter when it comes. I am very sorry for it, for I would like to hear all the local news. It is possible to have photographs taken but none of them are good likenesses, & as you have a very good one I suppose it is not worth while having one taken now. For you would not recognize it unless you knew for whom it was meant. Wrote Alex on 12th & Rosa on 15th. A's letter not yet rec^d. Capt. Macbeth is quite well, & got a letter from Mrs. M. yesterday. Was glad to hear of Genl. Hd's² safety, also of the promotions of Gcnls. B³ & Hn.⁴ I never hear from my Reg^t. Would like to know how Thompson is getting on. Sorry to hear of the deaths of Robt. G. & Mays B. Love to Father, brothers & all. Ever Your affect. Son,

John Taylor, Lt.
7 S.C.C.

¹ Eliza Hayne.

² Johnson Hagood.

³ Matthew Calbraith Butler.

⁴ Wade Hampton.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Sept. 23d. 1864

Many thanks, my dear Son, for your's of the 27th which we rec^d just after I wrote last. Sallie has also rec^d your's of the 24th. Your Aunt Eliose wrote to you a few days ago—your correspondents are increasing!—Alick left us on Monday evening—Ben Bostick,¹ Withers² Maynard,³ & several others were with him. James A., Wade & Albert were not well enough to go on just now. He enjoyed his furlough very much, having so many of his young friends with him, It was harder to part with him, this time, than ever before, as we have a more realizing sense of the dangers & hardships to which, he is exposed. I trust, my dear child, that you remember him especially at the throne of grace—the varied & trying scenes thro' which he has passed, have impressed him deeply, but he is young & naturally thoughtless, & camp life is not favorable to serious reflection. We are thankful that you are blessed with religious privileges. I hope you feel the goodness & mercy of God, in granting them to you, & are able thro' His grace, truly to enjoy them. Your father is so hopeful of your speedy return, that he is actually saving the last of the watermelons, hoping you may be in time to enjoy them & old Abram has some of last year's sweet potatoes hid away for you. Albert is quite well &

talks constantly of you. Your father joins me in much love. God bless you my precious boy. Oh may it please Him, to restore you soon to home & friends! Make out a list of the contents of your trunk—we wish to recover the value from the Express Co.—Sallie Bull⁴ died last week at her father's of Yellow fever. Have you ever rec^d the 30 confederate stamps I enclosed you in my letter of the 18th of August?

¹ Benjamin Bostick (1846-1864), private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Benjamin Robert and Caroline Roberts Bostick.

² W. R. Withers, private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry.

³ B. G. Maynard, private Company C 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry.

⁴ Sallie Davie Bull (1847-1864), daughter of William Izard and Mary Davie DeSaussure Bull of Charleston, died September 12, 1864.

John Taylor to his Aunt Eliza "Miss. Eliza P. Hayne Sumter So. Ca."

P.S. I enclose envelope stamped & directed. Always state Block & mess for there are several of my name here! So much for having so common a one.¹

Johnson's Island, Sept. 26th 1864.

My Dear Aunt,

Thank you for yours of Aug. 29th rec^d on Wednesday. I rec^d one from Mother & one from Alex by the same truce boat. You at home can have no idea how such letters, "Dixie letters" we style them, are appreciated. I enjoy them more than any other pleasure we have here. I am getting on as well as I could expect to in prison—I have no room to give a detailed account, & if I had I might say something contraband & thereby endanger my letter. On Friday night a tornado took off the roofs of three of our Blocks (houses), but the one I am in was not one of them—Only one or two of the prisoners seriously hurt, & no one killed. The wind blew much harder than I ever knew it to before. Tell Grand-mother I can not see of what use I am to or can be to any one as long as I am here. I should be less dis-satisfied if I thought my stay here of the slightest use. The army I think is a better place for my own improvement except that here we have the use of a greater number of books. But here I am not in a fit state of mind for reading & there I am. I sometimes read a page three times over, here, before I take in what the words imply. Guerrard Heyward is here & well. Much love to all.

Your Affect. Nephew John Taylor, Lt. 7 S.C.C.

¹ In 1864, there were at least two other prisoners named John Taylor: Captain John Taylor, assistant quartermaster Army of Northern Virginia, from King George County, Virginia, captured August 29, 1863 in King George County, and Lieutenant John Taylor, Company C 60th Tennessee Mounted Infantry, from Jonesboro, Tennessee, captured May 17, 1863 at the battle of the Big Black River Bridge, Mississippi.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Sept. 29th. 1864.

My dear Son

We rec^d yours of the 8th. last night. It is indeed a comfort to hear so often from you.—We heard of you yesterday son, thro' Capt. Harris¹ of James' Battalion who said he left you well, on the 16th. We cannot but hope that your time will come soon. Our trust is in "Him, with whom all things are possible," & we know that He is a prayer hearing & prayer answering God. "Wait on the Lord! be of good courage, & he shall strengthen thine heart: wait I say on the Lord."²—This is the fifth letter I have written this month. In mine of the 18th of August I enclosed you 30 stamps. We have heard from Alick since his return to his Command near Reams Station. George is clerk to Capt. L. Gen^l B.'s A.A.G. Albert E. expects to leave next week—he has rec^d & answered yours of the 30th. We heard from Gen^l H. this morning—he wants Eloise to go on to see him, she will probably go with Frank, who is going soon. she sends much love.—We went last night to Mary P.'s³ wedding at Trinity Church. There were no bridesmaids & no company invited to the house. Sallie⁴ looked beautiful—there is no time fixed for her wedding. "Toudie"⁵ has grown up quite pretty, & always asks after you—so do M. M. & Annie H.⁶—James Adger is with us—he is still suffering from his wound. The Doctor says Lamar is doing well, but his sufferings are very great. We heard from Aunt S.E.⁷ a few days ago,—Cousin Aurie⁸ has a son. Aunt Sallie is still with us. John at Green Pond. Friends generally well. Albert sends a kiss. Your father unites with me in much love. God bless & keep you, my dear child.

Your affectionate Mother.

¹ John M. Harris, captain Company D 3rd South Carolina Infantry of Calhoun Mills, South Carolina. Autograph, p. 75.

² Psalms 27:14.

³ Mary Cantey Preston. There was no celebration after the wedding because of the recent death of her brother William.

⁴ Sarah Campbell Buchanan Preston. In 1859 when he was in college, William Hayne Taylor wrote an eleven stanza poem about the beauty of Sallie Preston. The first stanza is:

Fair, as the poets fancied dream,
Bright, as glistening snowdrops gleam,
Soft, as warm summer's moonlight beam,
And sweet as by gone memories seem,
Is the gentle Sallie Preston (SCL, folder 6682).

⁵ Susan Frances Hampton Preston (1845-1905), sister of Mary and Sallie Preston, married Henry Frost (d-1926).

⁶ Ann FitzSimons Hampton (1844-1878), daughter of Christopher and Mary Elizabeth McCord Hampton.

⁷ Sarah Aurora Brevard Elmore.

⁸ Aurora Serena Elmore Jones (1831-Aft. 1880), daughter of Benjamin T. and Sarah Brevard Elmore, married Samuel Goode Jones (1815-1886) a civil engineer and railroad builder. The town of Jonesboro, Georgia was named for him in 1845 in appreciation for his efforts in planning the layout of the town as well as planning that portion of the railroad.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, O. Oct. 6th 1864.

Dear Mother,

Thank you for yours of Sept. 9th & 16th rec^d on the 4th. Those of Aug, 1st, 8th, & 18th & of Sept 1st, rec^d. I wrote Sallie Aug. 24th, you on Aug. 27th Sept. 8th & 22nd—Rosa on 1st & 15th—Alex on 12th & Aunt Eliza on 26th. Several of our officers have lately been specially exchanged. Tell Father I would like him to use every effort to get me off. I would suggest that he would see some Federal officers of my rank (2nd Lieut.) who can be depended upon, & who has sufficient influence to procure from the U.S. Authorities a permit to be exchanged for me, & set him to work to get said permit. He may not be able to do so without a parole. This done the remainder is easily Effected. This plan I think the best, but if the influence of friends will answer any purpose or be of any use try that way too, and every other in which there is hope. I have no room to express myself as clearly as I would. In the mean time I wish you would send me if practicable, per flag of truce boat, via Charleston (much the best rout) a barrel containing flour & fifty lbs. of bacon sides. The Sutler here sells no eatables nor clothing, nor are we allowed to receive such from any but relatives. Was quite well acquainted with Miss Crump & sisters & liked them very much. Her h-dkerchief reached Johnson's Isd. but is now among the things that were. Was quite surprised to hear of Jack's where-about. Enclosed 10 stamps, besides envelope as usual; & send by Lt. Dibble¹ of Orangeburg 20 stamps, 2 gutta percha chains & 2 rings—all of them my own work. The ring marked R.A.E. is for Rosa, the others you can do with as you see fit. Much love to all & a kiss for Albert. Macbeth quite well. Dibble goes with sick. I am quite well & have been. Yr. Affect Son,
John Taylor,
Lt. 7 S.C.C.

¹ Samuel Dibble (1837-1913), 2nd lieutenant Company G 25th Regiment South Carolina Infantry. Autograph, p. 78.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Oct. 7th. 1864.

My dear Son

I wrote you a week ago, in answer to yours of the 8th. of Sept.—Rosa has since rec^d your's of the 1st. & 16th. I have not seen the letters, but am thankful to hear of them.—Oh my child! our hearts do so yearn over you, & the desire to behold your face once more, seems almost unbearable—& if we suffer thus, what must be your sufferings! May God support & comfort you my precious boy! & sanctify all these things to your best & highest good! We know there is a "need be" for these trials & deep sorrows & afflictions with His blessing, "will work out for us a far more exceeding & eternal weight of glory."¹ Then let us cheer up & patiently wait His time & trust in His mercy.—We have rec^d no letter from Alick, since the late fights—but he telegraphed on the 4th. "that he was safe" but Ben B.² (nephew of Luther) was seriously wounded. The remains of one of the Co., E. Robertson³ of Fairfield, were brought on yesterday.—Eloise & Butler left us, night before the last, for Richmond—She hopes to meet her husband there, & go with him to Petersburg, to stay some time. I think it

very doubtful.—Ben Martin was not well enough to go on with her.—Albert & Rosa have both written you lately—wrote you five letters in Sept. I hope you rec^d them. Friends generally well, except Uncle I. who is in wretched health. Poor Lamar still suffering—Your father & Albert are well. Aunt S.⁴ unites with us in much love.—God bless & keep you my dear dear boy! & Oh may He soon restore you again to home & friends!

Your affectionate Mother.

Gen^l John Dunovant⁵, recently appointed to the command of Butler's brigade was killed on Friday last.

¹ 11 Corinthians 4:16-17.

² Benjamin Bostick was mortally wounded in the Richmond Campaign and died October 5, 1864.

³ Eber B. Robertson, private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, was killed in the Richmond Campaign October 1, 1864.

⁴ Sarah Cantey Taylor Rhett.

⁵ John Dunovant was killed October 1, 1864 at McDowell's farm during the Richmond Campaign.

John Taylor to his brother Alex

Johnson's Island, Oct. 10th 1864.

Thank you, my Dear Alex, for yours of Aug. 29th rec^d on Sept. 22nd. I should have ans^d it sooner but I had written you on the 12th. I was very sorry to hear thro' Mother that you had had your horse stolen. I wish you had mine instead of the sorrel, that is if mine is any better, I think there is scarcely a chance for me to get off. Only the sick are exchanged & I think it will never be any better as long as affairs bear the resemblance they do now. A few special exchanges are made. Capt. Macbeth of Charleston who married my friend Miss. Agnes, went off yesterday. Mr. Bedon must have been killed I judge so by what I see in the papers. I suppose Lt. Col. Nelson was killed too as nothing can be heard of him. I was surprised to hear that Jack was in McFie's Co. I thought he would never be fit for service again. Who is Jr. 2nd Lt. of my Co. now? John Caldwell is of course Captain. If you ever see Thorn or Thompson tell them to write to me. I have written often but have not heard at all lately—in fact I have not heard from Thompson at all. How is Wade M. getting? I hope he will soon recover. Wrote to Albert E. on Aug. 30th—Tell him I am waiting for an answer very patiently. I enclose an envelope stamped & directed. Give my love to all when you write home.

Ever yr. affect. brother, John Taylor, Lt. 7 S.C.C.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Oct. 13th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

I wrote you on the 6th, and among other things asked you to send me a barrel containing flour & fifty lbs. of bacon sides; also asking Father to use every available means to have me specially exchanged. Several have gotten off lately—among them my friend Macbeth. He promised to call on you, & will give an account of things generally much better than I can write them. I forgot to mention in my last that we had had a few days before a gale which swept off the roofs of three of our blocks. My block was not one of the ones. I was exceeding sorry to hear that Miss Decca S. was in consumption. I always liked her. Hope Lamar is improving. Wrote Alex on the 10th. Am sorry he was so unfortunate about his horse. Enclosed 10 stamps in my last, & sent 20 by Lieut. Dibble 25th S.C.V. who went off with sick about the time my last was written. I also sent a guttapercha ring marked R.A.E. for Rosa, & a ring & two chains which you can do with as you see fit. All of them are of my own make. Much love to all, to Albert a kiss. If you conclude to send barrel, & you have it send a small bag of dried okra but do not diminish the substantial to put in little nice things. Let me know when you write again if I stand any chance to get off.

Yr. Affect. Son,

John Taylor, Lt. 7 S.C.C.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Oct. 15th. 1864.

My dear Son

We have heard from Alick last night he was well & enclosed us your's of the 12th. of Sept. I had hoped to get one from you today, but was disappointed. Alick seems very deeply impressed by the trying scenes thro' which he has passed in the last eighteen months. I trust a good work has begun in him & that He who has begun, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ "God moves in His own way & uses His own means to bring us to Himself"—Alick has been called to active duty, to be exposed again & again to the perils

of battle, to see those he loved fall beside & around him. To you my poor child has been assigned a still more trying service—patient endurance & cheerful submission—Let our comfort be, that our trials are ordered by one who cannot err—that "He does not willingly grieve or afflict the children of men" & has promised that "all things shall work together for good, to them who love him." "Lord increase our faith" should be our constant prayer. Three of the Dragoons have been killed & one wounded since Alick left—Alex. Haskell¹ was seriously, it is feared mortally wounded on the 7th.—shot thro' the head. He was a perfect model of a Christian gentleman & soldier. Frank & Albert left on Wednesday—John R. is here on furlough. Theodore² is also here—he has had chill & fever. Lamar is still suffering dreadfully. Walter M.'s little girl was baptized yesterday—your father stood sponsor. Cattie's was baptized at the same time. M^r Wm. Howell³ was buried this morning—he died of consumption. Your father & Albert are well—all friends enquire after you & send love. Capt. Macbeth's friends are very sanguine of his speedy exchange—God bless you, my child! & may it please Him to grant you soon a safe & happy return to home & friends! I enclose 10 confederate stamps.

Your Affectionate Mother.

¹ Alexander Haskell was wounded four times—in the shoulder at Fredericksburg December 1862, in the left ankle at Chancellorsville May 2, 1863, in the stomach May 29, 1864 near Cold Harbor, and in the head resulting in the loss of his left eye October 5, 1864 near Richmond. He returned to his command after losing his eye in February 1865.

² Theodore Brevard Hayne (1841-1917), John Taylor's first cousin, captain Company C 15th Battalion South Carolina Infantry, son of Isaac William and Alicia Trapier Hayne, left The Citadel to join the war. He married Elizabeth Adams (1850-1937) in 1869 and was a cotton broker in Greenville, South Carolina.

³ William Howell, brother of Mally Howell, died October 14, 1864.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Oct. 22d. 1864.

My dear Son

Your's of the 22d. Sept. came to hand the day after I wrote you a week ago. Your's of the 6th of Oct. rec^d yesterday—just as I had finished reading it, Capt. Macbeth called. I could have wept as he handed me your watch—but hope it will not be long now, before I am permitted, to return it to your own keeping. We have heard nothing yet, from Lt. Dibble. Your little keepsakes will be specially valued as your own work. Your father has now gone to make enquires, as to the best way of making you a box. We will do so, as soon as possible. You must not suppose, my dear child, because (in view of the intense anxiety, we were suffering about Alick, & the perils & horrors of the battle field,) I said that "I could feel thankful at the end of a year's imprisonment, that you were still a prisoner" & that, we are not using every effort towards affecting a special exchange for you. I have seen Gen^l Chesnut myself & urged him to exert himself on your behalf—have written to Judge Ould¹—& your father has tried in many ways. Stark Means² has become appointed Commandant of the Prison Post here, & has permission to try & make some arrangement with one of the officers. We can only use the means & pray to God for his blessing upon them—I sent you a letter from your Grandmother—her handwriting is so illegible, I thought it best to copy it. Eloise is still at the S.C. Soldier's Home, Richmond, & will probably be there some weeks longer, unless her husband is ordered back to Petersburg.—Col A.H.³ is decidedly better. It is thought he will recover with the loss of one eye. John R. has been quite sick with fever, not seriously—Alick was well when he wrote on the 12th.—Albert always comes to claim his kiss, as soon as he sees a letter from you. Your father & Aunt S. join me in much love. God bless you my boy!

Your affectionate Mother.

Thank you for the stamps—I enclose you 10.

¹ Robert O. Ould, Confederate agent of exchange.

² Robert Stark Means (1833-1874), lieutenant colonel 17th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, wounded at 2nd Manassas August 1862, was the son of John Hugh and Sarah Rebecca Stark Means. His father, mortally wounded at 2nd Manassas, was governor of South Carolina 1850-1852, and a signer of the Ordinance of Secession.

³ Alexander Haskell.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Oct. 25th. 1864.

My dear Son

I have just finished packing a box for you, to be sent by the Central Association,¹ tomorrow. They have a special agent, for taking charge of boxes for our prisoners. You may receive it before this reaches you.

You will recognize it as one your father had, on the coast. I have put the key inside & had the box screwed down thinking you might find it, convenient. We will send another in two or three weeks. Your father went to the Military Prison² yesterday (situated on the other side of the river, near M^{rs} Mayrant's.)³ I wrote you that Stark Means was in command of it. There are none but officers confined there. They were removed from Charleston on account of yellow fever. One of the officers, Capt. J.N. Hetsler⁴ 9th. Ohio Cav. gave him a letter, which we have sent on by flag of truce, to Hon. F.C. Leblonde⁵ M.C. from some county in Ohio; begging him to furnish you with provisions & your father will furnish him here. I trust between this plan, & the boxes from home, you will not suffer again from want of food. This Capt. was keen for the bargain & is very anxious to be paroled & sent on, in which case, he promises, to have you sent back. Yr. father has gone today to see Capt. Hatch,⁶ who was expected here last night. Be assured, my dear child, that we are using the most strenuous exertions, to get you home once more. Lieut. Williamson, Montgomery County Ala. went with your father yesterday—He begs you to let his friends know, that he has arrived safe, via Nassau.—I wrote you that Capt. Macbeth had arrived & given us what you sent by him. We have just heard from Alick—he was quite well; says he wrote you on the 3d. God bless & keep you, my dear boy & may His blessing rest upon our efforts in your behalf! Your affectionate Mother.

Let us know whether Capt Hetsler's plan will be allowed. I enclose 10 stamps.

¹ The Central Association for the Relief of South Carolina Soldiers.

² Columbia Military Prison was about two miles outside of Columbia across the Congaree River. Because cornmeal and sorghum molasses were the dietary staples, the prisoners named it Camp Sorghum. It was established in October 1864.

³ Mrs. Robert Pringle Mayrant, Frances Ann Margaret Horry Guignard (1815-1890), owned property called Mayrant Hill across the Congaree River from Columbia.

⁴ Joseph N. Hetsler, captain Company G 9th Ohio Cavalry was captured April 1864 in Florence, Alabama.

⁵ Francis Celeste Le Blonde (1821-1902), a member of the United States Congress 1861-1867 from Ohio.

⁶ William H. Hatch, Confederate assistant agent of exchange.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island October 27th 1864.

Thank you, my Dear Mother, for yours of Sept. 29th rec^d on 17th and that of 23rd rec^d on 20th. Aunt Eloise's of 19th was gotten on 20th & Rosa's of 25th on 23rd both of which I will answer soon. I was fortunate in receiving all five of those you wrote last month. Con. stamps reached me safely. Contents of lost trunk, if I have not forgotten, were as follows: Full uniform—Full suit summer goods—4 woolen shirts & 4 or 5 calico—4 or 5 prs. drawers, woolen & cotton flannel—5 or 6 prs. Socks—3 or 4 (silk) handkerchiefs—4 or 5 towels—one silk cravat—one (silk?) Scarf—one tuck bag—Looking glass, brush & comb—2 cakes (honey) soap—needles, thread, buttons etc—Pocket needle case, pocket medicine case & knife—2 boxes percussion caps—Pound of powder, 6 or 7 of small shot—Gun flask, pistol Flask & bullets—Pack of wire buck shot cartridges—Hat (felt), boots (new) & shoes, just sent from home. Army Regulations Cavalry Tactics, Bible, Testament & hymn book—about 3 quires letter paper & about a pack of envelopes. One suit of under clothes were probably in my saddle valise—whether it & over coat were lost with trunk or not, you know. If I get home in time to enjoy the watermelons raised from seed of those Father is saving, tell him, I shall esteem myself fortunate. Glad to hear of Cousin Aurie's little soldier. Hope Lamar & James A. are improving—Albert E. is well I suppose by this time. Since the chaplains all left preaching is neither regular nor frequent—Sunday scarcely different from any other day, in our "Pen—" We have however, tolerable libraries. I miss my watch much more than I expected—It seemed the only old friend I had. Who is Sallie P.¹ engaged to? Love to all & to Albert his kiss.

Envelope enclosed

Yr. affect. Son, John Taylor,
L¹ 7 S.C.C.

¹ Sarah Campbell Buchanan Preston was engaged to General John Bell Hood.

John Taylor to his Aunt Eloise Martin "Mrs. Wm E Martin Columbia So Ca"

Johnson's Island, October 31st '64.

My Dear Aunt,

I am very much obliged to you for yours of Sept. 19th rec^d on Oct. 20th. Wrote Mother on 27th & on 28th rec^d hers of 7th mentioning departure of Cousin Eloise & Butler. Sorry to hear Ben¹ was too unwell to

leave; had supposed his wound but trifling; but glad to hear of John Richardson,² of whom I had not heard a word since '61. Not surprised to hear of fate of your house & Grand-mother's, particularly the latter; both their positions being prominent. Religious privileges at this place are at present somewhat contracted, but an attempt is in progress to build, by subscriptions, a plain chapel in which we can have services, & our prospects of success are very good. I am afraid that when I get home, such changes will have taken place, I shall not only scarcely recognize many familiar faces but even find it quite difficult to trace in myself much of a resemblance to the personage who left there bearing my name. I hope ere this Macbeth has seen Father & you all have had a full account of this place in every respect. My love to all at home, and if you write in that direction, to Mary D. I shall always be glad to hear from both yourself and Sallie.

Yr. Affect. Nephew, John Taylor, L¹ 7 S.C.C.

¹ Benjamin Martin.

² John Maner Richardson (1841-1890), private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th South Carolina Cavalry, son of Henry Warren and Mary Maner Richardson, brother of Hal Richardson, married Aunt Eloise's daughter and John Taylor's first cousin, Eloise Brevard Martin (1850-1935).

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Oct. 31st. 1864.

My dear Son

We have again been suffering much anxiety about Alick—were relieved on Saturday, by a telegram from Frank, stating that Albert, Tom T. & Alick were safe—Poor Press Hampton¹ was killed. Tom T. is expected this evening with the remains. Wade² was severely wounded—his sister has gone on, & his aunt Mary³ is going back with Tom. Death has been busy among your young friends—Desaussure Burroughs⁴ was killed on the 19th. his body fell into the hands of the enemy—he was with Gen^l Kershaw.⁵ I had a visit on Friday from Lt. Dibble—he brought your little package—How beautifully the chains & rings are made! They are the admiration of every one who sees them. Rosa will write & thank you herself for her's. I am wearing one of each. It is a sad pleasure to be so constantly reminded of you. Yr. father is wearing your watch. I wrote you on the 25th. of the box, which we had sent you. I will now give you a list of the contents.—Flour, bacon, rice, butter, 1 sealed can, 2 boxes of guava & 1 jar blackberry jelly, 2 jars pickles, 1 bottle medicated blackberry, 1 pepper vinegar, 1 lime juice—1 flannel shirt, 2 pr. socks, 1 handkerchief, 1 pr. gloves, 1 towel & cake of soap. I hope you have rec^d it safely. We will send another next week. I wrote you also of an arrangement, which yr. father had made, with Capt. Hetsler 9th. Ohio Cav. to furnish him with provisions here & Hon. T. C. Le Blonde to furnish you. We have already sent him a cart load bacon, flour, potatoes turkey etc. etc. We feel anxious to hear how this plan will turn out tho' we have strong hopes of seeing you at home before winter. Write if there is anything special, you would like sent. Willie D. & Eddie⁶ are both here. John R. is well again—Theodore still has chill & fever. Lamar still confined to bed & a great sufferer. Yr. father & Albert are well.—God bless you my precious boy!

Your affectionate Mother.

Large contributions are being taken up for our prisoners. The ladies are industrious & I hope will do much to alleviate their suffering.

¹ Thomas Preston Hampton (1844-1864), lieutenant Cavalry Regiment Hampton Legion, aide de camp to his father, son of Wade III and Margaret Preston Hampton, was killed at the battle of Burgess Mill, Virginia October 27, 1864.

² Wade Hampton IV (1840-1879), Preston's brother, Cavalry Regiment Hampton Legion, wounded at the battle of Burgess Mill, Virginia October 27, 1864, aide de camp to General J. E. Johnston.

³ Probably Mary Fisher Hampton (1833-1866).

⁴ William DeSaussure Burroughs, private 15th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, courier for General Kershaw, son of Henry K. and Ella DeSaussure Burroughs, was killed at Cedar Creek, Virginia October 19, 1864. General Kershaw wrote of his death, "One of my couriers, De Saussure Burrows, was shot through the head while riding by my side. He was a noble and gallant youth—a favorite with all who knew him" (OR s.1 v.43 pt.1, 595).

⁵ Joseph Brevard Kershaw (1822-1894), major general Confederate Army, a signer of the Ordinance of Secession, son of John and Harriett Dubose Kershaw of Camden, South Carolina, was a lawyer, legislator, and judge. He was captured at Sailor's Creek, Virginia in April 1865 three days before the surrender, sent to Fort Warren in Boston, and released in August 1865.

⁶ Edward Hayne Martin (b-1841), John Taylor's first cousin, private Company K "Charleston Light Dragoons" 4th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, son of Eloise Hayne and William Edward Martin.

John Taylor to his brother Alex

Johnson's Island, Nov^{br} 7th '64.

Thank you, dear Alex, for yours of Oct. 7th rec^d a few days ago. Was sorry to hear of the death of your Brigadier¹ & the capture of Pick B.² Hope Albert E. has recovered entirely and is again for duty, tho' I do not know but that even while sick he enjoys his visits home. I am much obliged to you for your thoughtfulness in getting me a saddle & bridle; yet I think it scarcely possible that I shall be so fortunate as to be able to use them; or in other words I think, & have thought so for a long time, that we prisoners, with a very few exceptions are doomed to remain thus for the war. Hear from Atchie occasionally—He however seldom has any news to give. Rec^d Mother's letter of same date as yours. Will answer soon. Wrote you on Oct. 10th in answer to yours rec^d some days previous. How does my Basvechie colt get on? If worth any thing I wish Albert to have it. Is it a horse or mare? Would not be surprised if you had use for the other two. Horses do not last long in V^a. Does George (black) stay with you? Have never gotten Albert E's letter. Rosa's & Aunt Eloise's ans^d. I would like to see all at home very much & especially Albert. I would not know him I suppose. He ought to ride very well by this time. How does Jack stand service? Think Alex Haskell would make a splendid Brig. but his Reg^l I am sure would miss him very much. Our "Bull Pen" is much fuller than it was last year. I hope the Winter will not be so cold, as the last. Love to all when you write home.

Write whenever you can.

Envelope enclosed

Yr. Affect. Brother, John Taylor

L¹ 7 So. Ca. Cav.¹ John Dunovant.² Andrew Pickens Butler, captain on the staff of General Dunovant, son of Pierce M. Butler and nephew of Matthew Calbraith Butler, was captured when ordered by General Dunovant to approach an enemy picket.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Nov^{br} 10th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

Your very welcome letter of Oct. 7th rec^d on 28th. I wrote you on Sept. 22nd, Oct. 6th, 13th & 27th. Wrote Aunt Eliza on Sept. 26th, Alex on Oct. 10th & Nov. 7th Aunt Eloise on Oct. 31st & Rosa on Nov. 2nd. I have been receiving my letters very regularly lately. Albert E's & Rosa's blockade letter are the only ones that I have missed. I believe Alex' last was written same day as yours. Heard thro' friends at Point Lookout that Atchie Tradewell, M. Howell, H. Richardson, & two privates of my Co. have been exchanged. Suppose by this time you probably have seen Mr. H. None have been sent from this place lately, that is since Macbeth left. I miss my watch more than I expected. I did not know I had so much affection for any thing inanimate, but it really seemed like an old & tried friend, while every thing & every body here are comparatively new. It seems years since I was in Camp & a great while longer since home has existed in any thing but imagination. Am sorry to hear Uncle Isaac's health is so bad. Hope Alex Haskell's wound is not very serious. He seems to be unfortunate, this is the fourth time he has been wounded I think. Would be glad to hear that he filled Gen. D's place, tho' his reg^l would miss him. Much love to all. Was pleased to notice the way in which W.W.B's¹ letter behavior was treated by Columbians.

Envelope enclosed.

Ever yr. affect. Son,

John Taylor, Lt 7 S.C.C.

¹ William Waters Boyce (1818-1890), from Charleston, a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives 1846-1847, United States Congress 1853-1860, Confederate Provisional Congress 1860-1861, and Confederate Congress 1862-1865, wrote to Jefferson Davis in September 1864 that the only way the South could escape military despotism would be an armistice. A meeting in Columbia called for him to resign, but he refused. In 1866, he moved to Washington, DC to practice law.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Nov. 10th. 1864.

My dear Son

We had hoped to hear from you today, but were disappointed. The last letter rec^d from you, was dated 6th. of Oct. We sent off another box for you, yesterday, containing bacon, flour, pickles, pepper vinegar, plum syrup, soap cakes, dried beans & okra, butter, jelly, ginger cakes—tobacco. I hope you have rec^d the first. sent a fortnight ago. We feel anxious to hear how Capt. Hetsler's plan turned out—Your father is still supplying him with provisions & money. I wrote you six letters last month. The last rec^d from Alick was dated the 3rd. His duties now are very arduous—as Gen^l B. only has two couriers. They are nine miles from Petersburg. Alex

Haskell has so far recovered, as to be able to return home, & hopes soon to be fit for duty again. Wade's wound is doing well—he was shot while attempting to carry his brother from the field. Two of his father's cousins were also shot, while going to his assistance. Tom T. & Alick then went & succeeded in removing Poor Press—he lived only half an hour & never spoke.—Cousin Eloise has returned from Richmond—she saw a great deal of her husband & had a pleasant time, she is now with us. Pick Butler has been captured—we have not heard where he is. Albert is well & enjoying Butler's company very much. They were most busy in helping to pack your box.—John R's reg^l has been ordered to Wilmington—Jack passed thro' here on Monday, on his way there. All unite in much love. Albert gives me a doz. kisses a day to send to 'budder Johnnie'—God bless you my precious Child! May He support & strengthen you. Your aff^{ate} Mother. We are still hopeful about exchange—but these things are slow. Enclosed 10 confederate stamps.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Nov. 19th. 1864.

Thank you, my dear Son, for your's of 13th. of Oct. rec^d last night. Alick also enclosed us, your's to him, of the 10th. They were a long time in getting here. We feel so anxious to hear whether you have rec^d the box, we sent on the 26th. We also sent another on the 9th. of November. This is the 7th. letter, I have written you, since the 1st. Oct. I wrote you of Capt. Hetsler's proposition, & hope his friends have acted in good faith. Your father is still supplying him with provisions.—You may rest assured my dear child, that every effort is being used to effect your exchange. There is a Federal Officer here, from N.Y. a friend of Capt. Radcliff's¹ whom we hope to get paroled, & who is confident, he can get you sent on in his place—We are trying in many ways, if one fails, we hope another will succeed. Your Uncle M.² has gone on to Richmond—thinks he can effect something for you there. We can only use the means & pray to God for His blessing upon them. Mally Howell & Jim Morris have returned.—Alick was well when he wrote on the 14th. Cousin Eloise is still with us, she had a pleasant visit to Richmond. Your father & friends generally well—Lamar better. Decca very sick—Albert sends a kiss—God bless you my precious boy—I trust we shall soon have you with us once more! Manning has just come in—He is to be married soon to a niece³ of D^r John Palmer⁴— Your affectionate Mother.

¹ Thomas W. Radcliffe (1812-1870), lieutenant colonel Company 2 Columbia Local Defense Regiment South Carolina State Troops, was a jewelry store owner in Columbia. His son Thomas was killed in 1863 at the age of 19.² William Edward Martin (1815-1869), John Taylor's uncle, colonel 1st South Carolina Mounted Militia Regiment, son of William Dickinson and Harietta Williamson Martin, a lawyer from Beaufort, South Carolina, married Eloise Hayne in 1836. He was clerk of the South Carolina Senate 1839-1866.³ Mary Elizabeth Palmer (1843-1925), married Manning Brown in December 1864.⁴ John Saunders Palmer (1804-1881), a signer of the Ordinance of Secession from St. Stephens District, son of Thomas and Harriet Jerman Palmer, graduated from South Carolina College in 1822 and New York Medical College in 1825. He married his cousin Esther Simons Palmer in 1830. Two of his sons were killed in the war.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Nov^{br} 24th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

Yours of Oct. 7th rec^d & ans^d—also Alex' of same date. When the last truce-boat arrived we were all much surprised & disappointed to find no mail had been sent thro'; however we hope when Col. Mulford¹ returns from Savannah he will bring on a very large one. I was exceedingly glad to hear that Mally Howell, Hal Richardson, Atch T. & two others of my Co. had left for "Dixie," & suppose by this time they have probably experienced a pleasure greater, deeper, & more heart felt than is ever felt except in times such as these. Things continue so much the same here that a diary of one week would, with few alterations, answer for that of almost any other; so as you doubtless heard thro' Macbeth & others more than can be written, it is useless for me to say anything on that subject; especially as it is rather risky to dwell on what so nearly approaches what is called "contraband." There is a considerable quantity of ice on the bay tho' not frozen over. Albert E's letter never reached me but I wrote him again on the 17th. Many of us were sorry to hear of Gen. Archer's death—he roomed just opposite to me, & his brother² is still here. I often see Clemson,³ J.C.C.'s⁴ grand-son, but have never been introduced to him. I do not know that I am unsociable, but I seldom visit any one but Goodwyn, and am unacquainted with those from whom I am separated by only a thin partition. But I've no space for such. Love to All.

Your affect. Son,

John Taylor Lieut. 7 S.C.C.

¹ John E. Mulford. United States assistant agent of exchange.² Robert Harris Archer (1820-1878), assistant adjutant general for his brother General James Jay Archer, from Hartford County, Maryland, was captured at Gettysburg in July 1863.³ John Calhoun Clemson (1841-1871), 2nd lieutenant Company H 1st Regiment South Carolina Artillery, son of Thomas Green and Anna Calhoun Clemson, was killed in a train wreck near Seneca, South Carolina August 1871.⁴ John Caldwell Calhoun (1782-1850) from Abbeville District, South Carolina, United States vice president 1825-1832.**Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John**

Columbia Nov. 26th. 1864.

My dear Son

It seems a long long time since we have heard from you & this bitter spell of weather, makes us feel more than ever anxious about you. If we could feel sure, that you had rec^d the boxes which we have sent, one on the 26th. of Oct. & the other on the 9th. of Nov. we would feel easier. The last letter rec^d from you was dated the 13th. of Oct. This is the eighth I have written since the first of last month. We would send another box this week if our hopes were not so strong, that you will have left Johnson's Is. before it could reach you.—As I wrote you we have been trying, in many ways, to effect a special exchange for you. Lt. Calef,¹ connected with the firm of Smith Young & Co. of N.Y. a friend of Maj. Radcliffe, is the Federal Officer whom we hope most from just now. Many prisoners have been exchanged lately—Mally H., L. Bostick, H. Richardson Newton Fowles² & your friend Atchic have arrived safely—I trust we shall soon rejoice over your return. If one plan fails, we hope another may succeed. Alick's last was dated the 14th. From recent orders issued, we think he will soon be here, on his way to Georgia.—& John R.'s Reg¹ be turned back before they reach Wilmington.—Lawrence T.'s Co. left here a few days ago for Hamburg³ Arty Goodwyn Capt.⁴ Alex Haskell is at home—improving rapidly.—Manning is with us. He expects to be married soon to a niece of M^{rs} Palmer,⁵ our neighbor in the Valley. He sends much love. Your Father & Albert are well. James Adger is with us—about to rejoin his command. God bless & keep you, my dear boy, & oh may it please God to hear our prayers & {part of page missing} speedy and safe return to home & friends.

Yr. affectionate Mother

¹ Benjamin S. Calef, quartermaster field and staff 2nd Regiment United States Sharpshooters, from Massachusetts, captured May 6, 1864 Battle of the Wilderness, sent to prison in Macon, Georgia, Charleston, and on October 5, 1864 to Camp Sorghum. He was released in December 1864. Calef published his prison experiences in *Harpers New Monthly Magazine* July 1865.² John Newton Fowles (1840-1913), private Company I 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, scout for General M.C. Butler's Brigade, son of James Henry and Matilda Maxcy Fowles, was captured in January 1864, sent to Point Lookout Maryland, and paroled in November 1864 after bribing a Yankee doctor fifty U. S. dollars.³ Hamburg, South Carolina is in Aiken County on the Savannah Railroad. It is now part of North Augusta, South Carolina.⁴ Artemas Darby Goodwyn, colonel 2nd Regiment South Carolina Infantry.⁵ Esther Simons Palmer, daughter of Joseph Palmer and wife of Dr. John S. Palmer.**John Taylor to his cousin Rosa Elmore**Johnson's Island, Dec^{br} 1st 1864.

My Dear Rosa,

I wrote you on Nov. 2nd in reply to yrs. of Sept. 25th rec^d on Oct. 23rd. We have been a longer time than usual without a truce mail, or "Dixie" mail as we call them. My last from home was written on Oct 7th. One from Alex of same date. We hope to receive a large mail when Col. Mulford returns from Savannah. My only correspondent who was on this side of the line has been exchanged—It was Tradewell of my Co. I am always glad to see any Confederate exchanged, but it sometimes renders one a little "bluish" when those taken many months after get home sooner than he. Probably by this time Mr. Howell, Hal Richardson & T. have reached Col^a and are once more enjoying the pleasures of Home—I feel sure they now appreciate all pleasure much more than either of them did before. I felt tempted to write to Sallie & presume enough upon my privileges as a cousin to give her a scold, but was a little afraid it might not be deserved & therefore concluded to postpone it. I hope Minnie has not forgotten that she once thought seriously of corresponding with me as you led me to suppose. I wrote Albert again on Nov. 17th, tho' I've never rec^d the answer to my last letter. He like most soldiers seems to have almost entirely forgotten the prisoners, whose fate & position few fully

comprehend who have experienced it & none who have not. Of course you will think me perhaps too hard on those of my own profession & may be I am. But no room for moralizing or any thing else now; so wish much love to all, I must bid you adieu.

As ever yrs.

John Taylor, L¹ 7th S.C.C.**John Taylor to his mother**Johnson's Island, Dec^{br} 5th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

My last from you bears date October 7th. One from Alex of same date. Wrote you on Nov. 10th & 24th and Alex on 7th & Rosa on Dec. 1st. We have been much longer than usual without a 'Dixie' mail. A few scattering letters have come in via Savannah but not many. I am in hopes you have thought to write by that way, & also to send the barrel of flour if possible. I am very glad to see our Government has made arrangements to do something for the prisoners—We have as yet seen none of the fruits of it—And I think it but just that the privates should be first served as they most undoubtedly are worse off then ourselves. Rec^d from Mr. Watson a few days ago a pr. of blankets, a pr. of pants & underclothing; consequently altho' without an overcoat I am much better off than last winter, as to my clothing. Sallie seems to be quite satisfied after having written me once. Ask her if one in eighteen months is to be the proportion of letters I am to expect from her. I think she might spare at least time enough to send me one every Christmas. I wish so much I could be at home to spend that day with you—My last spent at home was in '60—Much love to all & a kiss for Albert is all I can send in lieu of presents. Suppose Lawrence is in Ga. & many other boys, besides all the men who can be spared; I have been thinking that Father might possibly go. Was Capt. Doby killed? I hear not.

Yr. Affect. Son,

John Taylor, L¹

7 S.C.C.

Envelope enclosed

John Taylor to his brother AlexJohnson's Island, Dec^{br} 12th 1864.

Tho' I have written you twice already, my Dear Alex, since the receipt of your last, rec^d Oct. 31st & written on 7th, I again devote a page to your service with the hope that you will treat me in the same way under like circumstances. I also wrote to Albert E. again—I never got his letter. A much longer time than usual has passed since a regular "Dixie" mail has arrived—A few stray letters have come via Savannah, but I have not been so fortunate as to get one. It really seems to me that the more often I write the more seldom I receive letters, & Mother seems my only regular correspondent. A few days ago a 1st Lieut. from Columbia S.C. was asked for, who it was said to be exchanged, & as I was the only Lt. from said place I thought I should be the lucky personage—But altho' a 1st L¹ now I was not when captured, & consequently I am almost sure John Cline of Col^a Tennessee, who lived in Col^a S.C. many years ago & is a 1st L¹ tho' captured nearly a year after myself, will go if any one does. I can not but think it very probable I was the L¹ sought for, but there is no use hoping, now, that I may be benefited by it—it is too late, ten days have passed. The bay is frozen over, tho' not hard enough to walk on. I can not make so short letters interest you as you know no one here except Heyward, & there are so few subjects I can write you about. You can tell me all about friends at home of whom I have not heard for a long time. I hope you pay attention to Mother's letters & follow her advice. The longer I live & the more I see, the more I love her & the more I appreciate her letters & advice. Love to all.

Yr, affect. brother J. Taylor

Lieut. 7 S.C.C.

John Taylor to his mother

An envelope enclosed, as usual—John.

Johnson's Island, Dec^{br} 14th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

Your last, written on Oct. 7th was rec^d on 28th—Tho' no full mail has come for a long time, I have been expecting to hear from you via Savannah, as I know of several who have gotten letters sent that way, but have been much disappointed. I have continued to write regularly however—This is my eighth since that of Sept. 8th which you mention as the last rec^d. We have no greater pleasure here than that of receiving home letters—Writing them would be a task if it were not for the fact that they are supposed to give pleasure to those who get them; for, how-ever great the pleasure under other & less painful circumstances, when not only our space is limited, but our expressions circumscribed & our subjects chosen for us, we can scarcely term it an

enjoyment. Besides this there are no persons here for whom any of you cares (I mean particularly) except myself, and with all selfishness I can not well manage to write of no one but myself for so very many months. You have descriptions of every thing & observations about weather, always dull, have become intolerable. For these & other reasons we prisoners often find it now more difficult to write a letter of one page than one of four or more under different circumstances. Any thing that will satisfy you tho' will satisfy me; but I would like, if I could, to do much better than I have been doing, and I can not say I have been here-to-for (or am now) contented with my letters written home. I am afraid you will think me in a bad humor or perhaps discouraged, but I am not—Love to Father & all.

Yr. affect. Son, John Taylor, Lieut.
7 S.C. Cav.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Dec. 25th 1864.

My Dear Mother,

This is my fifth letter to you since the receipt of yours of Oct. 7th rec^d on 28th, and my ninth since the one of Sept. 8th which you mentioned as the last you had gotten—have also written to Alex, Albert E., Rosa & Minnie. Just after my capture is the only time that I was ever so long without a letter from home. I suppose no regular Truce mail was exchanged via Savannah or Charleston as so few have been rec^d here. Our Christmas seems not to differ in any way from other Sundays here, & there is not the proper amount of difference made between them & other days. However there are only a few preachers here & we are too crowded for even those to have room, & it is much too cold to meet in the open air. I have heard nothing more of the Chapel which at one time there was or seemed a prospect of our getting. There is quite a dissimilarity between today & Christmas 1860 spent in C. and the future still seems equally difficult to unravel. I wish I could send Albert a present, but as I cannot he shall have to 'take the will for the deed' & be satisfied with a kiss, that is if he is not getting too big for it. The bay has been frozen over for several days, but cold as it is the little individuals Cousin Eloise called Queen's subjects, at Montreal,¹ are still very plentiful. Love to Father & all.

Your affect. Son, John Taylor, L^t 7 S.C.C.

¹ Bedbugs.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Jan. 6th 1865.

My Dear Mother,

My last from you was that of Oct. 7th. This is my ninth to you since Oct. 1st besides which I written three times to Alex, three times to Rosa, once to Aunt Eloise, once to Minnie & once to Albert. On Dec. 27th I rec^d a letter from Capt. Calef who said he had seen Father on the 9th. He said his exchange ('special') had interfered with arrangements made for my benefit, but that neither time nor pains would be spared to get me off for some other officer. He also offered to assist me in any way consistent with regulations, but I was in need of nothing which he, not being a relative, would be allowed to send. Relatives only, can send clothing or eatables & the latter only on Surgeon's certificates—However I am very well supplied with the former & still have (would I could say enjoy) good health. Was exceedingly sorry to hear, thro' Godfrey¹ of the death of Preston H.—also of Wade's wound. The longer I am without a letter the more highly I will prize it when it does come, but the times are such I can not but be uneasy about those dear to me—Much love to Father & Brothers & to Albert his kiss. Your affect. Son, John Taylor 7 S.C.C.

¹ Samuel Gillespie Godfrey, 1st lieutenant Company C 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry. Autograph, p. 85.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Jan. 11th. 1865.

My dear Son

Your's of the 14th. of Dec. was rec^d yesterday. We were thankful to look once more upon your handwriting, for we had not heard from you for two months—your's of the 13th. of Oct. being the last letter rec^d from you. It was a very great disappointment to us to realize that the boxes sent had never reached you, or the many letters written. We fear you have suffered greatly my poor child, my heart bleeds at the thought of all you have had to endure! but let us not lose our trust in Him who orders all. In the midst of all this chaos & confusion—these bitter trials & deep sorrows, we must ever bear in mind, that "the Lord reigneth;"—that "he

doth not willingly grieve or afflict the children of men,"—that "whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, & strengtheneth every one whom He redeemeth." I trust my precious boy, in all your trials & sufferings you are able to recognise, the hand of a loving father, as well as of a righteous judge; & he has promised "as thy day is, so shall thy strength be." It is now thirty days since Lieut. Calif left, & I cannot but hope that you may have returned, in the flag of truce boat, which reached Richmond two days ago. Alick is near Weldon, was well when we heard. Friends generally well. The Bostick connections are all broken up. Cousin E. has packed up & is moving to the upper country—We are looking for Aunt S. & herself every day. Aunt Eliza is with us. Your father & Albert are well—God bless & keep you my dear dear boy! We think of & pray for you daily & hourly, indeed you are never out of my thoughts. Your affectionate Mother.

John Taylor to his mother

Johnson's Island, Jan. 20th 1865.

My Dear Mother,

At last a flag of truce boat has arrived, & we hope in a few days to receive a very large mail. I have never been so long without a letter from you, & under such circumstances as the present, time seems doubly long. This is my seventh since the receipt of your last dated Oct. 7th—Besides which I have written Rosa three times, Alex twice, Aunt Eloise once & Albert E. once. There is absolutely no news here, which can in any way interest, that I am privileged to write about. The bay is as firmly frozen I suppose as it ever is—Two-horse slays pass to & fro over it. I scarcely stir from my room, & manage to keep comparatively comfortable. On Jan. 8th I wrote Mr. J. B. Lippincott,¹ of Phila. at the suggestion of Capt. Isbell² my mess-mate, who is acquainted with him. In my letter to him, I offered him to have his relative, a prisoner in Col^a, furnished with any eatables such as flour, meat, dried fruit etc. which he would send me & told him if he got permission to indorse on my letter what he would send or had permission to send & enclose it to Father, & that he would see that his relative was supplied in the like kind & amount. Much love to all. Yr. affect. Son, John Taylor—Mr. L's promise to send will be sufficient if he has permission, as his relative is {part of page missing} each other. I have not heard from him yet.

¹ Joshua Ballinger Lippincott (1813-1886), a Philadelphia publisher.

² Robert Houston Isbell (1834-1892), captain Company D 1st Regiment Alabama Volunteer Infantry. Autograph, p. 96.

Sarah Hayne Taylor to her son John

Columbia Jan. 22d. 1865.

Keen & bitter has been our disappointment my dear child, in not having you with us, at this time. We had calculated that Lieut. Calif, who left Charleston on the 11th. Dec. had had time to communicate with you & make arrangements for your being sent on, by the last flag of truce boat, which reached Richmond on the 9th. "hope deferred maketh the heart sick"¹—I am sure we have all felt the truth of that text in your case. Your faith for a time has been severely tried, poor child!—most deeply do we feel for you! our very hearts bleed in thinking of your long prostrated sufferings!—I know your patient endurance of old & that you have always tried to make the best of every thing, & gave as little anxiety as possible. God bless you my precious boy! May He support & comfort you; & sanctify all these things to your best & highest good! "wait on the Lord; be of good courage & He shall strengthen thine heart; wait I say on the Lord." I wrote you a fortnight ago, acknowledging your's of the 14th. Dec. We have since rec^d your's of the 10th. & 25th. of Nov.—We are truly thankful for your continued health & feel that it is alone of God's goodness!—Aunt Eliza is with us & sends much love—Cousin E. has moved every thing & has broken up her home—we expect herself & husband² this evening—he is on furlough, expects to leave on the 24th. for Wilmington—Aunt Sally is also moving—The Bosticks & Martins are all broken up—some of them here. Luther³ is married. We heard from Alick a few days ago—still near Weldon. Your father & Albert quite well. Friends generally well—I hope you rec^d my letters sent at the time {part of page missing} My heart yearns over you. God bless you. Your affectionate Mother

¹ Proverbs 13:12.

² General Hagood was on leave January 4-25, 1865.

³ Luther Bostick married Mary Fuller in January 1865 and was a farmer in Lawton, South Carolina.

John Taylor to his motherJohnson's Island, Jan 27th 1865.

Dear Mother,

Have written Mr. J.B. Lippincott of Philadelphia that Father would furnish his relative W.R. Sturgeon¹ 107th Penn. Inf. a prisoner at Columbia, with eatables in such kind & amount, as he has a written permission from Gen. Wessels,² Com. Gen. Prisoners, to furnish me with, on his writing to Father that he has done or would do so. And as he wished to get his relative specially exchanged suggested that he would have him exchanged for me, & set friends to work on both sides at once.

Your affectionate Son
John Taylor, L¹
7th So. Ca. Cav.

¹ William R. Sturgeon, captain Company B 107th Pennsylvania Infantry.² Henry Walton Wessels (1809-1889), brigadier general, United States inspector and commissary-general of prisoners for the region east of the Mississippi River November 1864-January 1865.**John Taylor to his brother Alex**Johnson's Island, Feb. 8th 1865.

Dear Alex,

Thank you for yours of Nov. 28th rec^d. yesterday. I wrote you last in Dec. I rec^d no "Dixie" letters from Oct. to Jan. 24. Yours is later than any of Mother's yet gotten. Sorry to hear of Dessie B's¹ death & Preston H's. Had heard of P's before Mother's letter came, but no particulars were mentioned—Heard thro' Godfrey who was in College when I was, & is now here. Boxes not yet arrived, but I hope to receive them soon; i.e. in the course of a month, or so. May George & Albert soon be gratified by the receipt of their commissions! Is Col. W. B. a brother of Gen. M. C. B.?² Glad to hear of Wade M.'s recovery & Vince's promotion. My 'special exchange' could not be effected I suppose, as a sufficient length of time, it seems has passed. However I never had very much hope in it or any other, knowing the great uncertainty of all such. If I had I should now be quite 'demoralized,' as it is I am not. Nothing from Capt. Hetsler—I may be speaking too hastily, but I think it probable he has not acted in good faith. He could have written at least, if he had been able to do no more. Mr. Howell, Atch. T. Hal R. & others were exceedingly fortunate—We are in an out of the way place & tho' many of us were captured long before have no such good fortune. None have left here for our side of the Miss., except sick & those specially exchanged, for a long time. Love to all.

Yr. Affect. bro' John Taylor Lt. 7 S.C.C.

¹ William DeSaussure Burroughs.² William Butler and Matthew Calbraith Butler were brothers.**John Taylor to his mother**Johnson's Island, Feb^{ry} 10th 1865.

My Dear Mother,

Thanks for yours of Nov. 10th, 19th & 26th rec^d since my last of 3rd inst—Three rec^d which were written in Oct. making six rec^d of eight written. Boxes not yet arrived—Hope to get them soon—I suppose they came down the James on Jan. 26th—Nothing from Capt. Hetsler—His plan worthless without written permit from Gen Wessels, the Com. Gen. Pris. (Col. Hoffman¹ occupies place now, I believe.) Capt. Calef writes that he & friends are doing all they can to get me exchanged for a friend now at Col^a. He failed to get leave to send eatables—No answer from Mr. J. B. Lippincott, Phil^a. I was exceedingly sorry to hear of the death of Preston H. & Miss Decca S's illness. Ans^d Alick's last, Nov. 28th, on 8th inst. Will answer Minnie's, Rosa's & Aunt Eliza's soon. Glad to hear of return of Atch. T. Hal R. & others—They were fortunate—All of them were captured after I was, I believe. You must accept many thanks, as well as Father, for the trouble you have had in sending boxes & in your efforts for my exchange—I still hope that those efforts will bear fruit, tho' I am fearful the time has passed. I wrote you that 18 had left in special exchange on Jan. 27th—Love to Father, brothers, Cousin E. & all; and a kiss for Albert.

Ever your affect. Son, John Taylor,
Lt. 7th S. C. C.

¹ William Hoffman (1807-1884), colonel 3rd Regiment United States Infantry, commissary general of prisoners for the region east of the Mississippi River October 1861-November 1865 except November 1864-January 1865 when his region was west of the Mississippi River. He was made a brevet major general in March 1865.**Benjamin Calef to John Taylor**Salem February 12th 1865

Lt. John Taylor
Johnson's Island

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 6th came to hand this A.M. I am surprised to learn that you have not heard from Capt. Hetsler, as he told me your Father had been very kind in supplying his wants, and that he should call on you, and do all in his power to relieve your wants, as well as to obtain your exchange. He gave me his address—"Jas. N. Hetsler, Capt 9th Ohio Cavalry Celina Ohio"—

You speak of getting "a permit from the proper authorities to allow you to receive eatables." To whom should the application be made? Send me word, and I will try again, or send me a permit if you can get one. Major Radcliffe was very kind to me during my stay at Columbia, and I should be happy to reciprocate.

I shall be in New York within two weeks, and may learn something favorable about your exchange—The friends and family of Lt. Tainter¹ are doing their best to effect his exchange for you.—

Respectfully Yours
Ben S. Calef.

¹ H. Sherman Tainter or Tainton, 1st lieutenant Company G 82nd Regiment New York Infantry was captured May 25, 1864 at Hanover Junction, Virginia.**John Taylor to his mother**Johnson's Island, March 12th 1865.

My Dear Mother,

Strange & extremely indefinable have been my mingled feelings of hope, doubt & uncertainty for several days past: hope of a speedy release, doubt as to it's accomplishment & uncertainty as to the condition of affairs with those most dear to me. Yesterday I read an account of the burning of Col^a, but from it was unable to tell whether or not our home was destroyed—I hope for the best but fear for the worst. Our prospects for exchange have imparted new life at this prison—There are however some several hundreds who will go before myself, so I hope you have been making no preparations, which will lead only to disappointment as to my return. Four of my room-mates have already left—By one of them, Capt. J. H. Wiggins of Arkansas, I sent you my likeness in a gutta-percha frame of my own workmanship—He was to have visited some relatives living in Franklin Co. N.C. & promised to send by best opportunity—Should occasion permit, & he passes tho' Col^a, give him a good dinner—He is quite the gentleman & unless much changed of late will know how to appreciate such. Wrote to Alex on 10th—directed as usual. Much love to all. There is so little probability of my letters reaching you while communication is broken I will enclose no envelope. Yr. affect Son, John Taylor

Lieut. 7th S.C.C.

{written on the back of the envelope at an unknown date} Left Johnson's Island 14th March but when I wrote this did not want to raise hopes, when their realization seemed so uncertain. J.T.

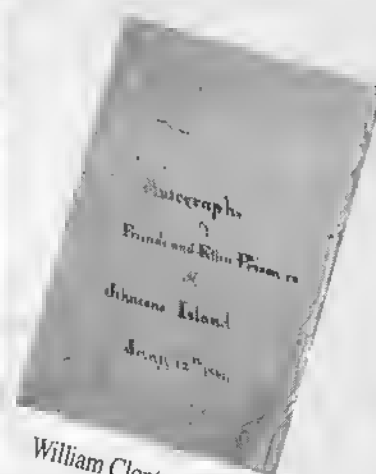
Autographs



First Page
George McKnight's Book



John Taylor's Book



William Clopton's Book

John Taylor, 2nd Dist.
 U. S. Senate
 Holcomb, Oregon, U.S.A.
 Address:
 Columbia, S.C.

John Taylor's autograph
 from Clanton's book

John Taylor's autograph
from Clopton's book.

William Clopton's autograph
from another prisoner's book.

... Simon & Hamilton Capt. Co. B. 24
 ... Lakeview Camp ...
 Capt. Simon ... } ...
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Simeon Hamilton's autograph
in English and Choctaw
from another prisoner's book.



Prisoner Art

Images courtesy of
John Taylor &
The Museum of the Confederacy.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. ARMY,
SOUTHERN DEPARTMENT,
SOUTHERN DIVISION, O., Jan. 20, 1865.

Special Orders No. 28.—NEW OR.

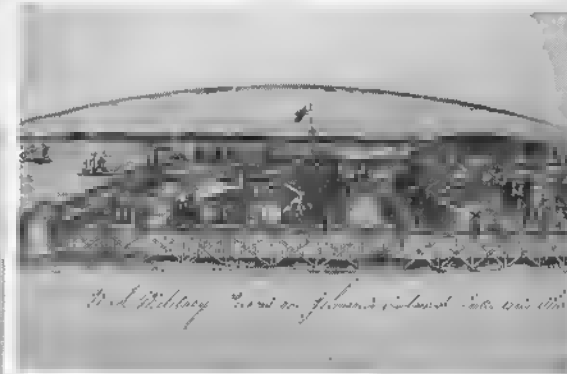
PAR. 2.—The Superintendent of the Prison will cause as many prisoners in the 1st of Black B. to work in the field, as may be necessary in provide quarters for prisoners who have applied to take the oath of amnesty, to be created by the parent companies, (as shall be assigned to other quarters), and will assign them to come on both Monday to the applicants for the Oath of Amnesty. Next to those applicants, he will, from time to time, assign such labor to other applicants for that oath, as they shall be ordered.

In like manner he will assign quarters in Black B. to (beginning at the end of the road the fence), in the way through out new applicants for the amnesty Oath, before not to be exchanged, and those on from Black to Black as members in each class may require.

It will be entitled the names to each class, from Captain Major, Supt. P. M. B. Co., based upon his own knowledge, and make changes from time to time in each class, by addition, or otherwise, as shall be convenient with the foregoing directions; and will transfer from one Company in accordance with the members of the same Company, to the other, and it is necessary, cause the prisoners to be taken to be transferred to the other reference the classification of prisoners herein made.

By command of COL. CHAS. W. HILL,
J. P. RUMFORD,
Capt. and A. A. G. Gen'l.

Inside cover of John's book.



And history now or future interest will be in

John Taylor, Lt.
Co. "B." Cavalry
Holcombe Leg. Co.
So. Ca. Vols.

John Taylor, Lt.
Co. "B." Cavalry.
Holcombe Legion
So. Ca. Vols.

Johnson's Island,
Ohio.
Feby. 20th 1864.

Johnson's Island,
Ohio.
Febry- 20th 1864.

John Taylor, Lieut.
7th Cal. Cavalry
Columbia.
Solen.

John Taylor, Lieut.
7th So. Ca. Cavalry
Columbia
So. Ca.

John Taylor (1842-1912), 2nd lieutenant Company B Holcombe Legion Cavalry, was elected 1st lieutenant Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry in March 1864 while in prison when the Holcombe Legion Cavalry was consolidated into the 7th Regiment. He mustered into the Holcombe Legion on November 21, 1861 as a private and became an orderly sergeant in 1862. In April 1863, John Taylor's father and his uncle Isaac Hayne were instrumental in getting him a commission as 2nd lieutenant.

Columbia April 7th

Dear James,

As much as I dislike to trouble my friends, my feelings as a parent constrain me to do so in behalf of my son, for whom I desire a commission—Will you with the assistance of enclosed papers endeavor to procure him one if possible. He is at present near Williamsburg Va. in Shingler's Cavalry & has been there since July last. He has never failed when an opportunity offered to punish the enemy both under Col. Shingler & Tabb. Col. Shingler or Capt. McKissick who was in Command of Squadron after Shingler's accident for some months will give their recommendation if you think it necessary, for Col. S. told me he thought him fit for any position. I would have gotten theirs but they are both with the Command.

Yours truly
A. R. Taylor

To
Col. James Chesnut, Jun.
Richmond
John is Orderly Sergeant to Company B Holcombe Legion Cavalry

Columbia S. C.
April 6, 1863

To the Hon.
J. A. Seddon
Secretary of War

We the undersigned respectfully recommend Sergt. John Taylor of this City for a Commission as lieutenant in the 1st or 2nd Regiment of S. C. Artillery or in any other corps where a vacancy exists.

Sergt. Taylor is a gentleman of good education and irreproachable character. He has been in service from the time of the attack upon Fort Sumter & has seen much service here and in Virginia where he now is. He has frequently for a considerable time had command of his company and has always acquitted himself creditably to the satisfaction of his commanding

officer. He is therefore cordially recommended as one whose appointment will do justice to the service & the country.

I held the office of Major in the Holcombe Legion for several months, of which Sergeant John Taylor was a member serving in the Cavalry, and can bear testimony to his good conduct as a soldier, and cheerfully recommend him to the appointment above mentioned.

A. C. Garlington¹
Adj. Insp. Genl. SC

Ex. Dept. Apl. 6/63

I Cheerfully concur to the recommendation of Genl. Garlington & {illegible} affirm Sergt. Taylor for a Lieutenancy in the Army. I know well his family & know them to be patriotic gallant & true to the cause. And tho' not acquainted with Sergt. Taylor, I have no hesitation to recommend him as one who will be a credit to the Service.

M. L. Bonham²

We concur in the forgoing recommendation.

W. D. Porter³
Pres. Senate S. C.
A. P. Aldrich⁴
Speaker House Rep.
I. W. Hayne
Atty. General (SCDAH film CW 0914)

John Taylor received his commission in May 1863. To celebrate his promotion, he bought an English saddle for \$125 on June 29th, and on June 30th received the pay for two months as a 2nd lieutenant—\$180. John was captured two days later at Crump's Crossroads near Tunstall's Station, New Kent County, Virginia on July 2, 1863 by the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He arrived at Johnson's Island July 20, 1863, left March 14, 1865 for Point Lookout, and arrived in Columbia March 29th.

John's problems with the United States government were not over. In July 1865, he was in prison in Columbia. Grace Elmore wrote in her diary on July 10th and 13th 1865:

John Taylor has gotten into trouble. His corn house has been repeatedly robbed. He watched, saw, called and then fired at a thief, who reported to Haughton⁵ and John is in consequence imprisoned and his work stopped until he can be tried at the military court. Scarce a day passes that we do not hear of some white person in trouble.

Col. Haughton is a rough uncouth creature who feels that tyranny is necessary to his official importance and to appear at his military court is to subject oneself to as much indignity as that which you complain. The hands of our men are tied. They cannot even protect their own property without being subjected to imprisonment and fined, so that all men, women and children keep a close watch over their actions in order to avoid a collision with the negro or the soldier (SCL, Grace B. Elmore Diary, 97, 100).

This was at the same time that his brother Alex was dying. John could not go home to see him, but was allowed to go to the funeral. John's imprisonment must have been the topic of Columbia gossip for several weeks. Emma Hopkins Hopkins⁶ wrote to her son English⁷ in Mississippi on July 30, 1865:

I have nothing to write you except the sudden death of Alex Taylor which took place on Thursday last. His brother was in confinement and did not see him until he was dead. John T. had shot a negro for stealing out of his field the yankees had him up & abused him & called him a fool, he cursed the Colonel & told him he should answer for it after this. They put him in jail and fined him seventy-five Dollars (SCL folder 3070).

John Taylor married Eliza Mathewes Coffin of Charleston in 1870. They lived in Columbia where John was a farmer and later an accountant for the state prison in Columbia.

¹ A. C. Garlington, adjutant and inspector general of South Carolina 1862-1868.

² Milledge Luke Bonham (1813-1890), governor of South Carolina 1862-1864.

³ William Dension Porter (1810-1883), president of the South Carolina Senate 1858-1865.

⁴ Alfred P. Aldrich, speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives.

⁵ Nathaniel Haughton, lieutenant colonel field and staff 25th Regiment Ohio Infantry. The regiment occupied Fairfield, Newberry, Edgefield, Lexington, and Richland Counties until April 1866.

⁶ Emma T. Hopkins Hopkins (1808-1868), wife of Ordinance of Secession signer William Hopkins (1805-1863) of Hopkins, South Carolina.

⁷ English Hopkins (1842-1918), a planter in Mississippi and South Carolina, married Laura Jervey (1860-1928) in 1882.

S. C. Campbell
Lt 5th Mo Regt.
address Franklin Mo

Johnson's Island
July 20th 1863
Hugh E. Malone
Capt Co D 8th Ga Regt -
Andersons Brig Hoods Div
Longstreets Corps A. N. V.
wounded & captured at
Gettysburg Pa. Greenville Georgia

Jno. S. Reid
Capt Co "B" 3rd Ga Regt.
Address, Eatonton, Ga.

S. C. Campbell
Lt 5th Mo Regt.
address Franklin Mo

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Longstreets Corps A. N. V.
 Greenville
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Gettysburg Pa

Jno. S. Reid,
Capt Co "B" 3rd Ga Regt.
Address,
Eatonton, Ga.

Stephen C. Campbell (1835-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company A 5th Regiment Missouri Infantry, was captured December 13, 1863 in Missouri. After the war, he was a farmer in Carroll, Missouri. His wife's name was Louisa.

Hugh E. Malone, captain Company D "Echols Guards" 8th Regiment Georgia Infantry, wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863, was transferred to Point Lookout for exchange March 14, 1865. He was a member of the Masonic Prison Association at Johnson's Island, and in 1854 he was a senior deacon of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, Greenville, Meriwether County.

John S. Reid (1840-Aft. 1919), captain Company B "Putnam County Brown Rifles" 3rd Regiment Georgia Infantry, wounded at Sharpsburg on September 17, 1862, wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 2, 1863. One of John Taylor's roommates in Block 12 and Block 1, he was transferred to Point Lookout for exchange March 14, 1865. Reid was alive in 1919 when he was listed as a witness in the Confederate Pension Records. He was a farmer in Ash Bank, Georgia.

Wm T Morris
Lieut 15 La Inftry
Trinity
La

J. W. Whitehead
Lt 53rd Va Regt
Chatham
Va

James E. Poindexter
Capt Co "H" 38th Va Regt
Armisteads Brig: Picketts Division
Address: Pittsylvania Co. Va

Wm T Morris
Lieut 15 La Inftry
Trinity
La

J. W. Whitehead
Lt 53rd Va Regt
Chatham
Va

James E Poindexter
Capt Co "H" 38th Va Regt
Armisteads Brig: Picketts Division
Address: Pittsylvania Co. Va

William T. Morris, lieutenant Company 1 15th Regiment Louisiana Infantry, captured at South Mountain, Maryland July 5, 1863, sent to Johnson's Island July 20, 1863, and sent to Point Lookout for exchange March 14, 1864. According to Louisiana records, Morris enlisted at age 28, was a druggist, 5 feet 11 inches tall with blue eyes, and dark hair.

James Wyatt Whitehead (1838-Aft. 1902), lieutenant Company A "Chatham Greys" 53rd Regiment Virginia Infantry, was wounded and captured at Gettysburg. The son of Richard and Eliza Brown Whitehead, he married Nannie Tredway and was a merchant in Callands, Pittsylvania County, Virginia. He described his Gettysburg experience:

We had driven the Yankees from behind the stone wall, captured all artillery in front of Armistead's Brigade, and the victory up to this point was complete. But reinforcements arriving for the enemy and none for ourselves, that was the end of our dearly bought victory. I lay on the battlefield two nights and a day before my captors removed me and no one will know what I suffered both physically and mentally. I think one could have walked 50 yards in any directions from where I lay on the field stepping from one dead man to another without putting foot to ground. I have read many accounts of this battle, but none I have ever seen begins to give one idea of the dreadful horrors of this fight (Pittsylvania).

James Edward Poindexter (1838-1912), captain Company H "Secession Guards" 38th Regiment Virginia Infantry, promoted to captain and wounded with a broken thigh on May 31, 1862 at the battle of Seven Pines, captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863, arrived at Johnson's Island July 20, 1863, was sent to Point Lookout, Maryland for exchange March 14, 1865. He was John Taylor's bunk mate when John was in Block 12, and according to John, he was the best player at draughts and the third best chess player. Poindexter, a graduate of the University of Virginia and the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, was ordained an Episcopal minister in June 1871. He served churches in Virginia, North Carolina, and Maryland. In 1883, he married Catherine Gordon Wallace.

Joel T Jones Lieut
Co F 38th Va Regt
Address Mount Airy,
Pittsylvania County,
Virginia

James H. Watson
Lieut 47th NC Inftry
Address Graham
No. Ca.

E. Nelson
Lieut Co "H" 15th Va Cavalry
Address Bellfair Mills
Va

Joel T Jones Lieut
Co F 38th Va Regt
Address Mount Airy,
Pittsylvania County,
Virginia

James H. Watson
Lieut 47th NC Inftry
Address Graham
No. Ca.

E. Nelson
Lieut Co "H" 15th Va Cavalry
Address Bellfair Mills
Va

Joel T. Jones, 1st lieutenant Company F "Davis Rifle Guard" 38th Regiment Virginia Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863 and arrived at Johnson's Island July 18, 1863. On March 14, 1865, he was sent to Point Lookout to be exchanged.

James H. Watson, 1st lieutenant Company K 47th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863.

Edwin Nelson (1831-1911), 1st lieutenant Company H 15th Regiment Virginia Cavalry, was captured at Dumfries, Virginia June 1863, paroled February 24, 1865, and exchanged March 3, 1865. He was then assigned to duty west of the Mississippi River. Nelson was paroled again on April 28, 1865 at Ashland, Virginia. The son of Thomas and Eliza Jane Weedon Nelson, he was a farmer, sheriff, and county clerk for Prince William County before the war, and a member of the Virginia General Assembly in 1877. He married his first cousin Bettie Weedon (1838-1911) in 1861. He and C. A. Nelson were cousins and brothers-in-law.

*John J. Tucker Capt
Co {E} 2nd N.C. Battalion
Address Goodmans + Roads
Harris County Georgia*

John J Tucker Capt
Co {E} 2 N C Battalion
Address Goodmans + Roads
Harris County
Georgia

*L W McLaughlin
Capt 1st La Rgt
Address New Orleans
La*

L W McLaughlin
Capt 1st La Rgt
Address New Orleans
La

*C A Nelson
Capt Co "B" 49th Va Regt
Dumfries Va*

C A Nelson
Capt Co "B" 49th Va Regt
Dumfries Va

John J. Tucker (1827-Aft. 1880), captain Company E "Anthony Greys" 2nd Battalion North Carolina Infantry, enlisted in Company A 60th Regiment Georgia Infantry in 1861. The 60th became part of the 2nd North Carolina Battalion. He was captured at Jack's Mountain, Pennsylvania July 5, 1863. He left Johnson's Island for Point Lookout March 14, 1865, and was exchanged on March 22, 1865. Tucker was a farmer in Meriwether County, Georgia. His wife was named Olive.

Louis W. McLaughlin, captain Company K 1st Regiment Louisiana Infantry, wounded and captured at Gettysburg on July 2, 1863, was sent to Johnson's Island from DeCamp General Hospital, David's Island, New York on September 20, 1863. McLaughlin was sent to Point Lookout for exchange February 16, 1865. According to Louisiana records, he was unmarried and working as a mechanic when he enlisted.

Chancellor Alexander Nelson (1834-1915), captain Company B "Quantico Guards" 49th Regiment Virginia Infantry, was wounded at Gettysburg and captured at Jack's Mountain, Pennsylvania July 5, 1863. He left Johnson's Island March 14, 1865 and was paroled April 28, 1865 at Ashland, Virginia. Nelson, son of Joseph I. and Mary B. Chancellor Nelson, married his cousin, Jane Nelson (1835-1915), Edwin Nelson's sister, in 1858. After the war, Nelson moved to Fort Scott, Kansas where he worked as a liquor store clerk.

*B F Martin 25th
Texas Cav Co /D/
Goliad Texas.*

B F Martin 25th
Texas Cav Co /D/
Goliad Texas

*Samuel J. Harris
Lt Co. D 38th Va Regt
address Swansonville
Pittsylvania County
Virginia*

Samuel J. Harris
Lt Co. D 38th Va Regt
address Swansonville
Pittsylvania County
Virginia

*J. W. Roberts Lieut
Co "F" 45th N.C. Regt
Address Grogansville
N.C.*

J. W. Roberts Lieut
Co "F" 45th N.C. Regt
Address Grogansville
N. C.

Benjamin F. Martin, 2nd lieutenant Company D 25th Regiment Texas Cavalry, was captured at Arkansas Post, Arkansas January 11, 1863.

Samuel J. Harris, lieutenant Company D "Whitmell Guards" 38th Regiment Virginia Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863, sent to Johnson's Island July 18, 1863, and sent to Point Lookout for exchange March 14, 1865.

Jones W. Roberts (1844-Aft. 1889), lieutenant Company F 45th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, was captured at South Mountain, Maryland July 5, 1863. He was a farmer and in 1889, he was postmaster of the Stoneville, North Carolina post office. His wife's name was Jennie.

*W. J. Kincaid,
Capt. Co. 'D' 11th Regt. N.C. I.
Wounded at Morganton,
Gettysburg July the 1st } N.C.
and captured July the 4th }*

*Louis M. Rüb
Lieut. Co. A 12th Louisiana Battalion
Heavy Artillery
Captured: Port Hudson July 9th /63
Address New Orleans La*

*T. M. Lucas
1st Lt. Co. "H" 6th La. Regt.
Hay's Brigade
Address, St. Louis, Mo.*

W. J. Kincaid,
Capt. Co. 'D' 11th Regt. N.C. I.
Morganton,
N. C.

Wounded at
Gettysburg July the 1st
and captured July the 4th

Louis M Rüb
Lieut Co A 12th Louisiana Battalion
Heavy Artillery
Captured: Port Hudson July 9th /63
Address New Orleans
La

T. M. Lucas
1st Lt. Co. "H" 6th La. Regt.
Hay's Brigade
Address, St. Louis,
Mo.

William J. Kincaid (1841-Aft. 1880), captain Company D 11th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, was wounded at Gettysburg July 1, 1863 and captured July 4, 1863. In 1880, Kincaid was a merchant in Griffin, Georgia. His wife was named Mary.

Louis Martin Rüb (b-1828), lieutenant Company A 12th Louisiana Battalion Heavy Artillery, captured July 9, 1863 at Port Hudson, sent to Johnson's Island October 16, 1863, and sent to Point Lookout for exchange in March 1865. Rüb was the son of Jean Louis and Marie Philott Virginie Bonseigneur Rüb of New Orleans. He was 5 feet 7 inches tall with a light complexion and dark hair and eyes. John Taylor tells in *War Memoranda* that Rüb's father was German and his mother was French. Rüb could speak both languages fluently and taught language courses to the prisoners at Johnson's Island.

Thomas M. Lucas, 1st lieutenant Company H "Orleans Rifles" 6th Regiment Louisiana Infantry, wounded at Malvern Hill, Virginia July 1862, wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 2, 1863, arrived at Johnson's Island July 20, 1863. He left Johnson's Island February 1865 and was paroled May 1865 at Greensboro, North Carolina. Lucas, born in New York, was a map finisher.

*Marcus Witkowski Lieut
Co E. 59th Ga Reg.
Macon Ga.*

*Very Respectfully
Wm Paylor Lieut
Co "I" 45th N.C. Regt
Leasburg
N. C.
Captured
Gettysburg Pa
July 4, 1863*

*A. M. Laning Lieut
Co "D" 38th Va Regt
Address Whitmill Pittsylvania
Cy
Va*

Marcus Witkowski Lieut
Co E. 59th Ga Reg.
Macon Ga.

Very Respectfully
Wm Paylor Lieut
Co "I" 45th N.C. Regt
Leasburg
N. C.

Captured
Gettysburg Pa
July 4, 1863

A. M. Laning Lieut
Co "D" 38th Va Regt
Address Whitmill Pittsylvania
Cy
Va

Marcus Witkowski, 1st lieutenant Company E 59th Regiment Georgia Volunteer Infantry, was appointed 3rd sergeant of Company D 5th Regiment Georgia State Troopers October 12, 1861. He mustered out in April 1862, and was elected 2nd lieutenant 59th Regiment Company E in May 1862. He was wounded and captured at Gettysburg in July 1863. Witkowski was elected 1st lieutenant July 10, 1863. He was released at Fort Delaware May 22, 1865.

William Paylor (1831-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company I 45th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 4, 1863. He was a member of the Masonic Prison Association at Johnson's Island. Paylor was a merchant and farmer in Leasburg, North Carolina. His wife's name was Mary.

Adolphus M. Laning (d-Aft. 1884), Lanier in the regiment roster, lieutenant Company D "Whitnell Guards" 38th Regiment Virginia Infantry, was 5 feet 9 inches tall, ruddy complexion, dark hair, and gray eyes. Laning was wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863 with gun shot wounds to legs, body, and head. Sent to the U. S. Army General Hospital, Chester, Pennsylvania, he was transferred to Johnson's Island August 31, 1863. He left Johnson's Island for Point Lookout March 21, 1865.

Samuel Ash
Lieut. 12th La Batt of Arty
Address- New Orleans
La.
Captured at Port Hudson July 9/63

F. N. Dick
Lieut 44th N.C. Regt
Greensboro'
N.C.

Robert A. Rollins
Lieut. 2nd Ky. Infy.
Louisville, Ky.

Samuel Ash
 Lieut 12th La Batt of Arty
 Address- New Orleans
 La
 Captured at Port Hudson July 9/63

F. N. Dick
 Lieut 44th N.C. Regt
 Greensboro'
 N. C.

Robert A. Rollins
 Lieut: 2nd Ky: Inftry:
 Louisville: Ky:

Samuel Ash, lieutenant 12th Battalion Louisiana Artillery was captured at Port Hudson, Louisiana, on July 9, 1863. This is not the Samuel Ash buried at Johnson's Island.

Frederick N. Dick (1844-1896), lieutenant Company G 44th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, captured June 26, 1863 by the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry at South Anna Bridge near Hanover Junction, Virginia, arrived at Johnson's Island July 20, 1863 in the same group as John Taylor. He left Johnson's Island February 20, 1865, and was paroled at Greensboro, North Carolina May 1, 1865. Dick was the son of John McClintok Dick of Greensboro. After the war, he graduated from the Medical College at Baltimore, and moved to North Platte, Nebraska in 1868. In 1871, Dick married Ella A. Webb of New York.

Robert A. Rollins, 2nd Lieutenant Company E 2nd Regiment Kentucky Mounted Infantry, was captured at Missionary Ridge November 27, 1863. John Taylor tells in *War Memoranda* that Robert was from Austria, had been studying for the Catholic priesthood before he came to the United States, and before the war he had held many jobs including prize fighting.

H. L. Rockwell
Lieut. Co "K" 2nd Geo Regt
Hoods Division
Address Lumpkin
Georgia

Samuel Franklin
Lieut Co "C" 15th Geo Regt
Hoods Division
Address Elberton
Georgia

Wm E Killen Lieut
Co (H) 45th Ga Regt
Address Henderson
Houston County
Georgia

H. L. Rockwell
 Lieut. Co "K" 2nd Geo Regt
 Hoods Division
 Address Lumpkin
 Georgia

Samuel Franklin
 Lieut Co "C" 15th Geo Regt
 Hoods Division
 Address Elberton
 Georgia

Wm E Killen Lieut
 Co (H) 45th Ga Regt
 Address Henderson
 Houston County
 Georgia

Henry L. Rockwell, 1st lieutenant Company K "Stewart Greys" 2nd Georgia Volunteer Infantry, captured at Green Castle, Pennsylvania July 5, 1863, was transferred to Point Lookout for exchange March 14, 1865.

Samuel Franklin, 2nd lieutenant Company C 15th Regiment Georgia Infantry, captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863, left Johnson's Island February 24, 1865 for City Point, Virginia to be exchanged.

William E. Killen, lieutenant Company H "Henderson Rangers" 45th Regiment Georgia Volunteer Infantry, wounded at Fredericksburg December 13, 1862, wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 4, 1863, died December 13, 1864 and is buried in grave 144 at Johnson's Island. In the *Houston County, Georgia Administration & Guardians Bond Abstracts 1852-1870* is a bond dated November 4, 1867 for \$1,500 for the orphans of William E. Killen. Two sons were named.

*Johnson's Island
March 2, 1864*

A. F. Butler
Capt Co "B" 8th Ga
Anderson's Brg^d Hood's Div
Longstreet's Cps
Address Savannah
Georgia
Wd & Cpl^d at Gettysburg

Lt. A. T. Goodwyn
58th Ala. Reg.
Montgomery,
Ala.

J. Irving Sale Lt. Co. H 53rd
V² Regt A. N. V²
Add - Aylett, King
William County
Captured at Gettysburg Pa

*Johnson's Island
March 2, 1864*

A. F. Butler
Capt Co "B" 8th Ga
Anderson's Brg^d Hood's Div
Longstreet's Cps
Address Savannah
Georgia
Wd & Cpl^d at Gettysburg

Lt. A. T. Goodwyn
58th Ala. Reg.
Montgomery,
Ala.

J. Irving Sale Lt. Co. H 53rd
V² Regt A. N. V²
Add - Aylett, King
William County
Captured at Gettysburg Pa

Alexander F. Butler, captain Company B "Oglethorpe Light Infantry" 8th Regiment Georgia Infantry, wounded at 1st Manassas July 21, 1861, wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 2, 1863, left Johnson's Island February 24, 1865 for exchange.

Albert Taylor Goodwyn (1842-1931), lieutenant Company K 58th Regiment Alabama Infantry, enlisted as a private in January 1861 in the South Carolina College Cadets, enlisted in the 45th Regiment Alabama Infantry and served as adjutant, enlisted as a 1st sergeant in Company E 2nd Battalion Georgia Sharpshooters September 1862 which became Company K 58th Regiment Alabama Infantry. He was promoted to 2nd lieutenant March 1863, captured at Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863, and was promoted to captain while in prison. Goodwyn took the Oath of Allegiance on June 13, 1865. He was the son of Albert Gallatin and Harriet Bibb Goodwyn of Robinson Springs, Montgomery County, Alabama. He and John Taylor were classmates at South Carolina College and distant cousins. Goodwyn graduated from the University of Virginia in 1867, was a member of the Alabama House of Representatives 1886-1887, the Alabama Senate 1892-1896, and the United States Congress 1896-1897. On December 22, 1869, he married Priscilla Tyler, granddaughter of President John Tyler.

James Irving Sale (1832-1919), lieutenant Company H 53rd Regiment Virginia Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 1863 and paroled in Richmond 1865. Sale was the son of Albert and Mary Sale of King and Queen County, Virginia. He signed John Taylor's autograph book twice. Sale told of his Gettysburg experiences:

Bordering the Emmitsburg Road were stout rail fences, too strong to be knocked or pushed over, and the southerners were forced to climb over or crawl through the rails. The Union line came alive with musketry as Pickett's soldiers scaled the fences. "I tried to crawl through the fence," recalled Lt. Sale, 53rd Virginia, "and heard the shot striking ping-ping on the rails all around me. My head got caught between two rails and I recall the horror of the thought that I might be killed and left hanging there dead. I jumped over the fence and came on. It was awful the way the men dropped" (Gettysburg).

Yours Respectfully
James P. Sloan
Lieut. Co. "F" 14th S.C.V.
Captured at Gettysburg Penn. July 5/63
Clinton P.O.
Laurens Dist
S. C.

A. F. Jordan
Lieut. Co. H, 14th Regt SC
Inftry
Aiken
S. C.
Capt Gettysburg July 5th 1863

J. F. Banks
Lieut. Comp. G, 13th Regt S.C.V.
Captured at Gettysburg Pa
Address:
Frog Level P.O.
Newberry Dist.
So. Ca.

Yours Respectfully
Jas P. Sloan
Lieut Co. "F" 14th S.C.V.
Captured at Gettysburg Penn. July 5/63
Clinton P.O.
Laurens Dist
S. C.

A. F. Jordan
Lieut Co. H, 14 Reg^t SC
Inftry
Aiken
S. C.
Capt Gettysburg July 5th 1863

J. F. Banks
Lieut. Comp. G. 13th Regt. S.C.V.
Captured at Gettysburg P.A.
Address:
Frog Level P.O.
Newberry Dist.
So. Ca.

James P. Sloan (1829-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company F "Carolina Bees" 14th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 5, 1863. Sloan was a farmer in Laurens, South Carolina. His wife's name was Martha.

Andrew F. Jordan, 2nd lieutenant Company H "Ryan's Guards" 14th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 5, 1863.

John F. Banks (1840-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company G 13th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 1, 1863. Banks was a teacher and farmer in Stoney Battery, South Carolina. His wife was named Texanna.

C. F. O'Neill
Lieut of Rhett's S. C. Battery
Captured at Gettysburg July 1863
Address Gainesville Alachua Co
Fla

John Dewberry Lt. Co. "E" 13th
Regt. S. C. V.
Captured at Gettysburg Pa. July 5th
1863.
Address Damascus Spartanburg Dist
S. C.

Simeon Cogburn
Lt Co K 14th Regt S. C. V.
Captured at Gettysburg Pa
July 5th 1863
Address Dorn's Mill P. O.
Edgefield Dist
So. Ca.

E. F. O'Neill
Lieut of Rhett's S. C. Battery
Captured at Gettysburg July 1863
Address Gainesville Alachua Co
Fla

John Dewberry Lt. Co. "E" 13th
Regt. S. C. V.
Captured at Gettysburg Pa. July 5th
1863.
Address Damascus Spartanburg Dist
S. C.

Simeon Cogburn
Lt Co K 14th Regt S. C. V.
Captured at Gettysburg Pa
July 5th 1863
Address Dorn's Mill P. O.
Edgefield Dist
So. Ca.

Edmond Felix O'Neil (1835-1898), lieutenant Company K 2nd Regiment South Carolina Infantry "Rhett's Battery" the "Palmetto Regiment," was wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 1863. O'Neill, born in Charleston, the son of John and Margaret Ann Dowling O'Neill, married Malvinia Adelaide Mason (1852-1880) of Massachusetts. He was a merchant in Otter Creek, Florida.

John Dewberry (1831-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company E 13th Regiment South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 5, 1863. He was a farmer in Cherokee, South Carolina. His wife's name was Mary.

Simeon Cogburn (1826-1880), 2nd lieutenant Company K "Meeting Street Saludas" 14th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 5, 1863. Cogburn, son of John and Letty Still Cogburn of Edgefield County, South Carolina, married Sarah Quattlebaum and was a farmer. He died in January 1880.

J. H. Williams
Lt Co F 14th Regt S. C. Vols
Capt at Gettysburg Pa
Address Martins Depot
Laurens Dist
S. Ca

John M. Harris
Capt Co "D" 3^d Batt S. C. I.
Calhouns Mills P. O.
"Gettysburg"

J. D. Charles 1st Lieut Co "G"
Orr's Regt Rifles S. C. V
Grove Station
Greenville Dist
So. Ca

J. H. Williams
Lt Co F 14th Regt S. C. Vols
Capt at Gettysburg Pa
Address Martins Depot
Laurens Dist
So. Ca

John M. Harris
Capt Co "D" 3^d Batt S. C. I.
Calhouns Mills P. O.
S. C.
"Gettysburg"

J. D. Charles 1st Lieut Co "G"
Orr's Regt Rifles S. C. V
Grove Station
Greenville Dist
So. Ca

James H. Williams, 1st lieutenant Company F "Carolina Bees" 14th Regiment South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 1863. He was a farmer in Hunter, Laurens County, South Carolina. His wife was named Alexander.

John M. Harris, captain Company D "Calhoun Light Infantry" 3rd Battalion South Carolina Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 1863. According to Sarah Taylor's letter of September 29, 1864, Harris left Johnson's Island on September 16th.

Joel D. Charles (1844-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company G "Marshal Riflemen" 1st Regiment South Carolina Rifles "Orr's Rifles," was captured at Falling Waters, Maryland July 14, 1863. After the war, Charles was a merchant in Gantt, South Carolina. His wife was named Ida. His actions at the Battle of Fredericksburg in January 1863 are described in a report of Lieutenant General Thomas J. Jackson to Brigadier General R. H. Chilton, assistant adjutant and inspector general of the Army of Northern Virginia:

In the mean time a large force of the enemy penetrated the wood in rear of the position occupied by the brigades of Lane and Archer, and came in contact with Gregg's brigade. Taken by surprise, Orr's Rifles were thrown into confusion. It was in the act of rallying this regiment that Brig. Gen. Maxey Gregg fell in front of the Rifles, mortally wounded. Colonel Hamilton, upon whom the command of that brigade now devolved, hastened to meet the emergencies of his position, and with the four remaining regiments and one company of the Orr Rifles (Lieutenant [J. D.] Charles) gave the enemy a warm reception. The enemy was not long permitted to hold the advantage which he had thus gained (OR s.1 v.21, pt.1, 632).

N. K. Sullivan
1st Lt Co "C" Orr's Regt Rifles
Address McGowan's Brigade
Anderson CH
So Ca

P. H. B. Shuler
1st Lt Co "A" 2nd S. C. Regt
Columbia S.C.

T. J. H. Douglass
Lieut. Fitz Lee's S. S.
Captured at { Chester
Aldie 17th June 1863 } So. Ca.

N. K. Sullivan
 1st Lt Co "C" Orr's Regt Rifles
 McGowan's Brigade
 Address SCV
 Anderson CH
 So Ca

P. H. B. Shuler
 1st Lt Co "A" 2nd S. C. Regt
 Columbia
 SC.

T. J. H. Douglass
 Lieut. Fitz Lee's S. S.
 Chester
 So. Ca.
 Captured at
 Aldie 17th June 1863

Nimrod K. Sullivan (1830-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company C "Mountain Boys" 1st Regiment South Carolina Rifles "Orr's Rifles," was captured at Falling Waters, Maryland July 14, 1863. He was a merchant in Anderson, South Carolina.

P. H. B. Shuler, 1st lieutenant Company A 2nd Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was wounded at Sharpsburg, and wounded and captured at Gettysburg where he lost a leg. He left Johnson's Island in April 1864 with the sick and wounded according to John Taylor's letter of April 25, 1864. In May, he visited John's father and gave him the mementos John had sent home. Before the war, Schuler was a bookkeeper at Janney's Hotel in Columbia.

Thomas J. H. Douglass (1842-Aft. 1880), lieutenant Company G 5th Regiment Virginia Cavalry Fitz Lee's Sharp Shooters, was captured at Aldie, Virginia on June 17, 1863. He was the son of John and Mary Lunsford Douglass of Chester, South Carolina. Douglass, his father, and his three brothers were physicians. He practiced medicine in Fairfield County, South Carolina. His wife was named Lily.

R. G. Howard
Capt. Co 'I' 21st S.C.V.
Florence
So. Ca

T. J. Hall
2nd Lieut. Company "E"
Orr's Regt. Rifles S.C.V.
Address Bounty Land
Pickens District
S. C.

J. M. Woodward
1st Lieut Co (G) 21st S.C.V.
Captured at Morris Island
July 10th 1863
Darlington
So. Ca

R. G. Howard
 Capt. Co 'I' 21st S.C.V.
 Florence
 So. Ca

T. J. Hall
 Sec Lieut. Company "E"
 Orr's Regt. Rifles S.C.V.
 Address Bounty Land
 Pickens District
 S. C.

J. M. Woodward
 1st Lieut Co (G) 21st S.C.V.
 Darlington
 So. Ca
 Captured
 at Morris Island
 July 10th 1863

R. G. Howard, captain Company 1 21st South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, was captured at Morris Island July 10, 1863.

Thomas J. Hall (1842-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company E "Oconee Riflemen" 1st Regiment South Carolina Rifles "Orr's Rifles." He married Martha Jenkins and was a farmer in Seneca, South Carolina.

J. M. Woodward, 1st lieutenant Company G "Williams Guards" 21st South Carolina Infantry, was captured at Morris Island July 10, 1863.

S. Dibble
 2nd Lieut. Edisto Rifles
 Eutaw Regiment
 Address: *25th S.C.V.*
Orangeburg S.C.
 Capt'd near
Charleston S.C. July 7th 1863.

Alex P. Craig
 2nd Lt Co "E" 21st Regt S.C.V.
 Address *Chesterfield C.H. S.C.*
 Captured *Morris Island S.C. July 10th 1863*

T. A. Sanders
 2nd Lt Co "A"
 2nd So Ca Cav.
Darlington S.C.

S. Dibble
 2nd Lieut. Edisto Rifles
 Eutaw Regiment
 25th S.C.V.
 Address:
 Orangeburg S. C.
 Capt'd near
 Charleston S.C.
 July 7th 1863.

Alex P. Craig
 2nd Lt Co "E" 21st Regt S.C.V.
 Address *Chesterfield C. H. S. C.*
 Captured
Morris Island S.C. July 10th 1863

T. A. Sanders
 2nd Lt Co "A"
 2nd So Ca Cav.
 Darlington S. C.

Samuel Dibble (1837-1913), 2nd lieutenant Company G 25th Regiment South Carolina Infantry "Eutaw Regiment," captured at Morris Island July 7, 1863, was released from Johnson's Island in October 1864. John Taylor told his mother in a letter dated October 6, 1864, "Dibble goes with sick." He visited John's mother the last week in October according to her letter of October 31, 1864. Dibble returned to the 25th Regiment in January 1865, and was promoted to captain. He was captured at Town Creek, North Carolina February 1865 and sent to Fort Delaware where he was released in June 1865. Dibble had an autograph book at Johnson's Island which John Taylor signed. The son of Philander and Frances Ann Evans Dibble of Charleston, he graduated from Wofford College in 1856 as the only member of the first graduating class, and was admitted to the bar in 1859. He married Mary Christiana Lewis in November 1864. Dibble was a member of the United States Congress 1881-1891.

Alexander P. Craig (b-Abt. 1838), 2nd lieutenant Company E 21st Regiment South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, was captured at Morris Island, South Carolina July 10, 1863.

Theodore A. Sanders, 2nd lieutenant Company A 2nd Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, was captured at Martinsburg, West Virginia July 17, 1863.

R. H. Fennell
 2nd Lt Co "H" 24th Regt S. C. V.
Chester S. C.
 Captured at *Chickamauga*

Thomas F. Jones
 Capt Co "A" 16th Ga Batt Cavalry
 Captured in the Battle of Blountville Tenn
 Sept 22nd 1863—
 Address *Cartersville*
 Nativity *Barton County Ga*
Laurens C. H. S C

R. H. Fennell
 2nd Lt Co "H" 24th Regt S. C. V.
 Chester
 S. C.
 Captured at Chickamauga

Thomas F. Jones
 Capt Co "A" 16th Ga Batt Cavalry
 Captured in the Battle of Blountville Tenn
 Sept 22nd 1863—
 Address *Cartersville*
 Barton County
 Ga
 Nativity
 Laurens C. H. S C

Robert H. Fennell (1839-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company H 24th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured at Chickamauga September 1863. He was a farmer in Baton Rouge, South Carolina. His wife's name was Lizzie.

Thomas F. Jones, captain Company A 16th Battalion Georgia Cavalry, was captured at Blountville, Tennessee on September 22, 1863. In January 1865, the 16th Battalion became part of the 13th Georgia Cavalry Regiment. Jones was listed on the roster of this regiment.

James Macbeth
Capt SC Arty
Charleston SC

Morris Island, SC

S. L. Leaphart
Capt. Co. "A" 2nd S.C. Regt.
Columbia S.C.

A. M. Newman,
Lieut 1st Regt Va Cavalry
Army, N. Virginia
Harrisonburg
Virginia

J. Ravenel Macbeth
Capt S C Arty
Charleston S C
Morris Island, S C

S. L. Leaphart
Capt. Co. "A" 2nd S.C. Regt.
Columbia S.C.

A. M. Newman,
Lieut 1st Regt V^a Cavalry
Army, N. Virginia
Harrisonburg
Virginia

James Ravenel Macbeth (1839-1893), captain Companies C and E 1st Regiment South Carolina Artillery, was wounded and captured at Morris Island July 10, 1863. Macbeth was the son of Charles and Henrietta Ravenel Macbeth of Charleston. Charles Macbeth, mayor of Charleston, surrendered the city to General Sherman in February 1865. Macbeth married Agnes Wallace Pearson on December 23, 1862. Agnes lived near the Taylor family in Columbia during the war. Sarah Hayne Taylor told her son, "You ought to always mention each other. That way we may hear of one another." John did as he was asked. After the war, Macbeth moved to St. Louis, Missouri and was a commercial traveler.

On October 7, 1864, General Benjamin F. Butler, Federal commissioner for exchange, wrote that he would send the proposition concerning Captain Macbeth to R. O. Ould, Confederate agent of exchange, (OR s.2 v.7 pt. 1, 927). Macbeth left Johnson's Island on October 9, 1864 according to John Taylor's letter of October 10th. He returned to his company. On March 16, 1865, he lost his left arm and was captured at Averysboro, North Carolina. General Sherman wrote of seeing Macbeth after his arm was removed.

The rebel wounded (sixty-eight) were carried to a house near by, all surgical operations necessary were performed by our surgeons, and then these wounded men were left in care of an officer and four men of the rebel prisoners, with a scanty supply of food, which was the best we could do for them. In person I visited this house while the surgeons were at work, with arms and legs lying around loose, in the yard and on the porch; and in a room on a bed lay a pale, handsome young fellow, whose left arm had just been cut off near the shoulder. Some one used my name, when he asked, in a feeble voice, if I were General Sherman. He then announced himself as Captain Macbeth, whose battery had just been captured; and said that he remembered me when I used to visit his father's house, in Charleston. I inquired about his family, and enabled him to write a note to his mother, which was sent her afterward from Goldsboro'. I have seen that same young gentleman since in St. Louis, where he was a clerk in an insurance-office (Sherman, v. 11, pt. 4).

Sherod Luther Leaphart (1835-1886), captain Company A "Governor's Guards" 2nd Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was wounded at Sharpsburg September 1862, and wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 2, 1863. Leaphart, son of Michael and Susannah Leaphart of Lexington County, South Carolina, was a member of the Masonic Prison Association at Johnson's Island. In 1859, there was an S. L. Leaphart working as a bookkeeper for the Congaree Hotel in Columbia and living at the hotel.

Anderson Moffet Newman, Jr. (1839-1908), 2nd lieutenant Company 1 1st Regiment Virginia Cavalry, was captured at Gettysburg July 4, 1863 and exchanged February 24, 1865. Newman, son of Anderson Moffet and Rebecca Taylor Newman, was a farmer in Rockingham County, Virginia. He was an adjutant for the S. B. Gibbons Camp of Confederate Veterans in 1904-05. Newman died October 2, 1908 and is buried in Woodbine Cemetery, Harrisonburg.

Adolphus Cooke
Lieut Co "B" 1st Md Cav
Pittsville
Prince George Co
Maryland

Joseph J. Davis
Capt. Co. "G" 47th N.C. I.
Louisburg
North Carolina

Nathan Richardson
Pri Carter's C Scts
Williamsburg
Va

Adolphus Cooke
Lieut Co "B" 1st Md Cav
Pittsville
Prince George Co
Maryland

Joseph J. Davis
Capt. Co. "G" 47th N.C. I.
Louisburg
North Carolina

Nathan Richardson
Pri Carter's C Scts
Williamsburg
Va

Adolphus Cooke (1841-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company B 1st Regiment Maryland Cavalry, was wounded and captured at Gettysburg in July 1863. In 1880, Cooke was a farmer in Baltimore, Maryland. His wife was named Rachel. Cooke's capture was reported by General William E. Jones:

Captain Emack {George M. Emack, captain Company B 1st Regiment Maryland Cavalry} and Welsh {Warner G. Welsh, captain Company D} lost heavily for the number engaged in this affair, the greater part of their men being killed, wounded or made prisoners, and among the wounded and captured was Lieutenant Adolphus Cooke, of Emack's company, a most dashing young officer, who lay insensible for several days before regaining consciousness. Lieutenant Cooke remained in prison until the close of the war, much to the regret of the men of his company, with whom he was very popular (Maryland).

Joseph John Davis, captain Company G 47th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, wounded and captured on July 3, 1863 at Gettysburg, was president of the Masonic Prison Association at Johnson's Island. On November 28, 1864, he wrote to the commander of the forces at Johnson's Island, Colonel Charles W. Hill. Davis asked that the sick prisoners be allowed to receive food from the association or from relatives. The request was approved by Colonel Hill and General Wessells, but on December 22, 1864, it was rejected by Assistant Secretary of War C. A. Dana (OR s.2 v.7 pt. 1, 1186).

The letter began:

Colonel: As president of the Masonic Prison Association I desire to make an appeal to you on behalf of the sick confined here. I am sure your nature must be too generous to refuse to do anything in the real interest of humanity that may be in your power, and that you will indulge me a moment. It is cheerless, indeed, to be sick away from home under the depressing influences of the prison, and recovery is often retarded-sometimes prevented-by mental anxieties...

Nathan Richardson, 1st lieutenant 21st Regiment Tennessee Cavalry Nathan W. Carter's Scouts Wheeler's Corps, sometimes called Wheeler's Scouts. Richardson's signature is also in an autograph book owned by the Library of Virginia (LVA 24735).

*J. Irving Sale Lt.
Co "H" 53rd Va Regt A N V^a
Captured at Gettysburg, Pa. July 3rd 1863*

*S. H. Richardson Lt
Co "B" 53rd Va Regt A N V^a
Captured at Gettysburg, Pa. July 3rd 1863*

*W. G. Reynolds Lt
Co "A" 8th S C Regt
Winchester, Va.*

J. Irving Sale Lt.
Co "H" 53rd Va Regt A N V^a
Address. Aylett's, King W^m Co. V^a
Captured at
Gettysburg
July 3rd 1863

S. H. Richardson Lt
Co "B" 53rd Va Regt A N V^a
Address Barhamsville
New Kent
Captured at
Gettysburg Pa
July 3rd 1863

W. G. Reynolds Lt
Co "A" 8th S C Regt
Timmons ville
S C

James Irving Sale signed the autograph book twice. See p. 72.

Sylvester H. Richardson (1840-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company B 53rd Regiment Virginia Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863. After the war, Richardson was a traveling salesman living in Baltimore. His wife was named Deleno.

William G. Reynolds, lieutenant Company A 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864.

*Yours very truly
J. F. Mitchell
Adj^t 10th Confed: Cavalry
Wheeler's Corps.
Army of Tenn
Address.
Liberty, Va.*

*Fatio Dunham
1st Lieut 3rd Fla
St. Augustine
Fla*

*T. B. Livingston
Cap^{tn} Comp'y "H" 8th Fla
Address. Fernandina
Nassau County
Florida*

*Yours very truly
J. F. Mitchell
Adj^t 10th Confed: Cavalry
Wheeler's Corps.
Army of Tenn
Address.
Liberty, Va.*

*Fatio Dunham
1st Lieut 3rd Fla
St. Augustine
Fla*

*T. B. Livingston
Cap^{tn} Comp'y "H" 8th Fla
Address. Fernandina
Nassau County
Florida*

Joseph F. Mitchell, Jos. E. Mitchell in the regiment roster, adjutant 10th Regiment Confederate Cavalry, was captured at Richmond, Kentucky May 17, 1863.

Fatio Dunham (1835-Bef. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company B "St. Augustine Blues" 3rd Regiment Florida Infantry, son of David and Maria Dunham of St. Augustine, was captured at Chickamauga September 25, 1863. His brother David, lieutenant 2nd Regiment Florida Infantry, captured at Gettysburg, was also a prisoner at Johnson's Island. Dunham was elected Clerk of the St. Augustine Circuit Court January 1867. In 1870, he was a trustee of the school for blacks built by the Freedmen Bureau. His wife was named Dionesia.

Talliaferro B. Livingston (1844-Aft. 1905), captain Company H 8th Regiment Florida Infantry, was wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 1863. He was a clerk in Fernandina, Florida. His wife, Camilla, applied for a Confederate pension in 1905.

W. M. Gunnels
Lieut. 3rd Batt. S.C. Inf.
Laurensville
S.C.
Captured
Gettysburg Pa.
July 4th 1863

W. M. Gunnels
Lieut. 3rd Batt. S.C. Inf.
Laurensville
S. C.

Captured
Gettysburg Pa.
July 4th 1863

S. A. Munson
Capt. Co. H 13th Tenn Regt
Address \ *Memphis*
Tenn

S. A. Munson
Capt. Co. H 13th Tenn Regt
Address Memphis
Tenn

W. F. Owen
Capt 18th Ark
Address \ *Pine Bluff*
Ark

W. F. Owen
Capt 18th Ark
Address Pine Bluff
Ark

William M. Gunnels, lieutenant Company D "Calhoun Light Infantry" 3rd Battalion South Carolina Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg on July 4, 1863. He was a friend of Tally Simpson (1839-1863) and his brother Dick (1840-1912), privates Company A 3rd Regiment South Carolina Infantry, whose published letters told of him many times from June 1861 until November 1862, usually saying that he was sick. According to the letters, Gunnels was sent home on sick leave in January 1862. The last mention of Gunnels is in Tally Simpson's letter of November 12, 1862 from Culpepper, Virginia, "Willy Gunnels is here and will dine with us today. He is looking well" (Everson, 159). Gunnels' Johnson's Island autograph book is owned by the Florida State Library.

Sylvester A. Munson (1843-Aft. 1880), captain Company H "Yancey Rifles" 13th Regiment Tennessee Infantry. Munson was a farmer in Shelby, Tennessee.

William F. Owen, captain Company K 18th Regiment Arkansas Infantry, captured at Port Hudson July 9, 1863, took the Oath of Allegiance at Fort Delaware June 1865. Owen graduated from Union University in 1854. In 1869, he was practicing law in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Yours truly
S. Gillespie Godfrey
1st Lt. 8th S. C. Regt
Cheraw
S. C.
Captured near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864

Yours truly
S. Gillespie Godfrey
1st Lt. 8th S. C. Regt
Cheraw
S. C.
Captured near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864 —

Chas. E. McPherson
2nd Lieut. 8th S. C. Regt
Florence
S. C.
Johnson's Island
March 7th 1865

Chas. E. McPherson
2nd Lieut 8th S. C. Regt
Florence
S. C.
Johnson's Island
March 7th 1865 —

William E. James
1st Lt. 8th S. C. Regt
Darlington
S. C.
March 7th 1865

William E. James
1st Lt. 8th S. C. Regt.
Darlington,
S. C.
March 7th 1865

Samuel Gillespie Godfrey (1840-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company C 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester on September 13, 1864. Godfrey was a friend of John Taylor's at South Carolina College. In 1865, he was commissioner of roads in Chesterfield County, South Carolina. He married Harriet Elizabeth Powe and was a farmer in Cheraw, South Carolina.

Charles Ervin McPherson (1834-1900), 2nd lieutenant Company H 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, enlisted as a sergeant, was promoted to 2nd lieutenant for gallantry at Bean Station, Tennessee December 1863. He was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864. McPherson was a farmer in McMillians, South Carolina. His wife was named Harriett.

William Elias James, Jr. (1840-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company F 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864. James was a farmer in Palmetto, South Carolina. His wife's name was Helen.

*Lt W. A. Courtney Co. B.
the 8 S.C.V. Regt
Old Stone Post Chester
field Dist So Ca*

*James A. Craig
2^d Lt Co. D. 8th S.C. Regt
address - Chesterfield C. H. So Ca*

*Wm. T. Rogers.
Lt. 8th S.C. Regt.
Brownsville
S. C.*

*Lt. W. A. Courtney Co. B.
the 8 S. C. V. Regt
Old Stone Post
Chesterfield Dist So Ca*

*James A. Craig
2^d Lt Co. D. 8th S.C. Regt
Address - Chesterfield C. H. So Ca*

*Wm. T. Rogers
Lt. 8th S. C. Regt.
Brownsville
S. C.*

William Ashmead Courtney (1831-1909), spelling later changed to Courtenay, 2nd lieutenant Company B 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864. Courtney, son of Edward and Elizabeth Wade Courtney of Charleston, married Julia Anna Francis (1837-1908). He was mayor of Charleston 1879-1887.

James A. Craig (abt. 1838-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company D 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864. He was the son of Hugh and Mary J. Craig. Craig was a manufacturer in Chesterfield, South Carolina. His wife was named Susan.

William T. Rogers (1841-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company K 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864. Rogers was a farmer in Brownsville, South Carolina. His wife was named Arabella.

*M. B. White
Capt Co (A) 14 Rgt Va Cavalry
Address Lewisburg
Greenbrier City
Va*

*Charles Norvell
Lieut 14th Va Cavalry
Lynchburg
Virginia
A.N.V.*

*James F. Crocker
Adjut 9th Va Infantry
Portsmouth
Virginia*

*M. B. White
Capt Co (A) 14 Rgt Va Cavalry
Address Lewisburg
Greenbrier City
Va*

*Charles Norvell
Lieut 14th Va Cavalry
Lynchburg
Virginia
A.N.V.*

"Winchester"

*James F. Crocker
Adjut 9th Va Infantry
Portsmouth
Virginia*

Moorman B. White (1830-1872), captain Company A 14th Regiment Virginia Cavalry, was captured at Martinsburg, West Virginia on June 14, 1863 when his horse ran into enemy lines. White, born in Augusta County, Virginia, was a merchant and owner of the Lewisburg Hotel in Greenbrier County, Virginia. Greenbrier County became part of West Virginia in 1863.

Charles R. Norvell (1835-1878), lieutenant Company G 14th Regiment Virginia Cavalry. In March 1863, Norvell's promotion recommendation stated, "He is a young gentleman of education and much intelligence, a first rate soldier, with that industry & energy & 'dash' so essential to an effective cavalry officer" (Driver, 163). In October 1864, R. O. Ould, Confederate agent of exchange, asked for the release of Charles Norvell, and in January 1865, he was on the list to be exchanged. He was exchanged in February 1865. Norvell, a lawyer, died in New Orleans in 1878. His capture on June 12, 1863 in Virginia was reported by General R. E. Rodes:

A portion of General Jenkins' men had been skirmishing during the afternoon of the previous day and on the morning of the 13th, and had lost a few men, among them Lieutenant Charles Norvell, who was wounded and captured in a gallant charge upon the enemy near Nineveh (OR s.2 v.7 pt.1, 548).

James Francis Crocker (1828-1917), adjutant 9th Regiment Virginia Infantry, wounded in the throat, shoulder, and arm at Malvern Hill July 1, 1862, wounded in the right leg and captured at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863, was exchanged February 24, 1865. Crocker, one of John Taylor's friends and roommates in Block 12 and Block 1, Mess 2, had a light complexion, light hair, gray eyes and was 6 feet tall. He graduated from Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg as valedictorian, was a lawyer, a judge, superintendent of Portsmouth City Public Schools, and a member of the College of William and Mary Board of Visitors. He married Margaret Hodges. In 1904, Crocker read his *Prison Reminiscences* at a meeting of the Stonewall Camp of the Confederate Veterans. The speech was published in 1906.

W. W. Kennerly
Lt Co 'I' 2nd Regt. Geo. Vols.
Address Buena Vista
Georgia

W. W. Kennerly
 Lt Co 'I' 2nd Regt. Geo. Vols.
 Address
 Buena Vista
 Georgia

Thos. H. Francis
Capt Co 'A' 4th Tenn Reg't
at Murfreesboro
Janry-2^d 1863
Memphis Tenn

Thos. H. Francis
 Capt Co "A" 4th Tenn Reg't
 Memphis
 Tenn
 W^d & Capt'd
 at Murfreesboro
 Janry-2^d 1863

John H. Sears
Lt. Robins Cavalry
address
Gloucester Court House
V.A.

John H. Sears
 Lt. Robins Cavalry
 Address
 Gloucester Court House
 V.A.

William W. Kennerly (1833-Aft. 1880), lieutenant Company I "Buena Vista Guards" 2nd Regiment Georgia Volunteer Infantry, enlisted on April 15, 1861, was wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 5, 1863, and left Johnson's Island in March 1865. He was a member of the Masonic Prison Association at Johnson's Island. Kennerly was a teacher in Smithville, Georgia, and his wife was named Martha.

Thomas H. Francis (1840-Aft. 1880), captain Company A "Shelby Grays" 4th Regiment Tennessee Infantry, lost a foot and was captured at Murfreesboro, Tennessee January 2, 1863. After the war, Francis was a hardware merchant living in Jackson, Tennessee. His wife's name was Julia.

John H. Sears (1834-Aft. 1909), 1st lieutenant Company D 24th Virginia Cavalry "Robins Cavalry." Sears was a physician in Westville, Mathews County, Virginia. His wife, Emaline, was on the 1909 Mathews County Confederate Pension List.

Jno. Y. Snyder
Capt Co. F 31st La. Inf.
Trinity
Catahoula Parish
Louisiana

Jno. Y. Snyder
 Capt Co. F. 31st La. Inf.
 Trinity
 Catahoula Parish
 Louisiana

Sherwood J. Evans
Lt. Co. 'B' 47th N.C. Regt.
Louisburg, N.C.

Sherwood J. Evans
 Lt. Co. "B" 47th N.C. Regt.
 Louisburg, N.C.

Lt. A. N. Spencer
C^o "G" 11th La Regt
Trinity La

Lt. A. N. Spencer
 C^o "G" 11th La Regt
 Trinity
 La

John Y. Snyder, captain Company F 31st Regiment Louisiana Infantry, was captured and paroled at Vicksburg, Mississippi July 4, 1863. He was arrested February 1864 and sent to Johnson's Island. R. O. Ould, Confederate agent of exchange, wrote to Colonel Mulford, United States agent of exchange, on October 26, 1864. The answer to this letter is unknown, but Snyder signed the autograph book after March 7, 1865.

Captain J. J. Snyder {J. Y. Snyder} Thirty-first Louisiana Infantry is now held as a prisoner at Johnson's Island. He was captured and paroled at Vicksburg July 4, 1863. He has never been declared exchanged. He was arrested in Louisiana last February, and at the time claimed his rights as a paroled officer. His representations were disregarded and he is now held as a prisoner. Will you not release him on parole? (OR s.2 v.7 pt. 1, 1045)

Sherwood J. Evans, Sherrod J. in the regiment roster, lieutenant Company B 47th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863.

Arias N. Spencer (1845-1886), 1st lieutenant Company G 11th Regiment Louisiana Infantry, was the son of George and Nancy Spencer of Catahoula Parish, Louisiana and brother of prisoner William B. Spencer. He was a friend of John Taylor's at South Carolina College, and was called Ni. Spencer was a lawyer in Delta, Louisiana. His wife was named Laura.

R. M. Julian
Lieut. Co. 'D' 2nd NC. Batt
Address, Cumming, Ga

R. M. Julian
 Lieut. Co. 'D' 2nd NC. Batt
 Address, Cumming, Ga

Wm B. Spencer
Capt Co. "B" Crescent Reg
La Infy.
Address, Harrisonburg, La

W^m B. Spencer
 Capt Co. "B" Crescent Reg^t
 La Infy.
 Address,
 Harrisonburg
 La

Jas Spence
Lieut Co C 51st Ala Cavalry
Talladega Ala

Jas Spence
 Lieut Co C 51st Ala Cavalry
 Talladega
 Ala

Robert M. Julian (1839-Aft. 1880), lieutenant Company D 2nd Battalion North Carolina Infantry, enlisted in the 21st Georgia Volunteer Infantry 2nd Company E which later became part of the 2nd North Carolina Battalion, was captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863. He was the son of Baily F. and Ruana Sherrill Julian of Forsyth County, Georgia. In 1880, Julian and his wife, Susan, were living in Forsyth County.

William Brainerd Spencer (1835-1882), captain Company B Consolidated Crescent Regiment Louisiana Infantry, was captured in 1863. Spencer, son of George and Nancy Spencer of Catahoula Parish, Louisiana and brother of A. N. Spencer, was 5 feet 9 1/4 inches tall with dark hair and complexion, and hazel eyes. He graduated from Centenary College, Jackson, Louisiana in 1855. In 1857, he received a law degree from the University of Louisiana at New Orleans and married Henrietta Elam (1838-1888). Spencer was a member of the United States Congress 1872-1877 and an associate justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court 1877-1880.

James Spence (1827-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company C 51st Regiment Alabama Cavalry Partisan Rangers, captured at Shelbyville, Tennessee June 27, 1863, was one of John Taylor's roommates in Block 1 Mess 2. The 1883 pensioners list for Talladega County had James W. Spence receiving \$4.00 a month for chronic diarrhea. He was a confectioner.

James W. Lapsley
1st Lt. 51st Ala
Selma Ala

James W. Lapsley
 1st Lt 51st Ala
 Selma
 Ala

J. H. Wiggins
Capt Light Arty
Arkadelphia Ark

J. H. Wiggins
 Capt Light Arty
 Arkadelphia
 Ark

Wm D. Ervin
Capt. 18th Va Cavalry
Warm Springs Virginia

W^m D. Ervin
 Capt. 18th Va Cavalry
 Warm Springs
 Virginia

James Woods Lapsley (1835-1901), Lapsley in the regiment roster, 1st lieutenant Company E 51st Regiment Alabama Cavalry Partisan Rangers, son of Robert A. and Catherine Rutherford Walker Lapsley, one of John Taylor's roommates in Block 1 Mess 2, was captured at Kingston, Tennessee October 25, 1863. He married Sarah Elizabeth Pratt in 1857. Lapsley was a lawyer in Milton, Alabama.

Jannadine or Jannedens H. Wiggins, captain Arkansas Light Artillery "Wiggins Battery," was captured at Shelbyville, Tennessee June 1863. One of John Taylor's roommates in Block 1 Mess 2, he was a member of the Masonic Prison Association at Johnson's Island. Wiggins left Johnson's Island before March 12, 1865.

William Dickinson Ervin (1833-1890), captain Company G 18th Virginia Cavalry, was captured June 19, 1863 at McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania, exchanged February 1865, and paroled May 1865. Ervin, the son of James R. and Martha Dickinson Ervin, was 5 feet 11 inches tall with dark hair and blue eyes. He attended Virginia Military Institute and was a colonel in the Virginia Militia. In 1873, he married Mary Hutten Long and was a farmer in Warm Springs, Virginia.

I had rather lose a limb & be free

The Johnson's Island Experiences of John Taylor, Lieutenant 7th South Carolina Cavalry

*N J George
Lieut Col 1st Tenn Infy
Lincoln County
Tennessee*

N J George
Lt Col 1st Tenn Infy
Lincoln County
Tennessee

*W I Fain
1st Lt 51st Ala Cavalry
Jacksonville
Ala*

W I Fain
1st Lt 51st Ala Cavalry
Jacksonville
Ala

Newton J. George (1839-1919), lieutenant colonel Company H "The Shelton Creek Volunteers" 1st Regiment Tennessee Infantry, was captured at Gettysburg by the 14th Connecticut Infantry. George, son of Thomas and Mary George of Lincoln County, Tennessee, was a lawyer.

William I. Fain (1842-Aft. 1880), lieutenant Company A 51st Regiment Alabama Cavalry Partisan Rangers, was captured at Shelbyville, Tennessee June 27, 1863. William Fain was a farmer in Silver Run, Alabama. His wife was named Sarah.

*William Odom
Capt Co "A" 8th So Ca Regt
Address Darlington C H S. C.
Capt'd Near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864*

William Odom
Capt Co "A" 8th So Ca Regt
Address Darlington C H S. C.
Capt'd Near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864

*John J. Rouse
1st Lt Co A 8th So Ca Infy
Florence
So. Ca.
Capt'd Near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864*

John J. Rouse
1st Lt Co A 8th So Ca Infy
Florence
So. Ca.
Capt'd Near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864

*P. A. Moore
2nd Lt Co B 8th SC Regt
Chesterfield C H S. C.
Capt'd
Near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864*

P. A. Moore
2nd Lt Co B 8th SC Regt
Chesterfield C H S. C.
Capt'd
near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864

William Odom, captain Company A 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864.

John J. Rouse (1842-Aft. 1880), 1st lieutenant Company A 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864. Rouse was a farmer in Effingham, South Carolina. His wife's name was Amanda.

Peter A. Moore (1840-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company B 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, son of Mares and Elizabeth Moore of Chesterfield County, South Carolina, was captured near Winchester on September 13, 1864. Moore was a farmer in Chesterfield Court House, South Carolina. His wife was named Catherine.

R T Powell
Capt 6th B. 8th S.C. Inf
Chesterfield Co. S.C.
Capt'd near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864

P Sellers
1st Lt of B. 8th S.C. Inf
Chesterfield Co. Ho. S.C.

J. T. Goodson
2nd Lt Co A 8th S.C. Regt
Darlington CH
S.C.
March 7th 1865

R T Powell
Capt Co "B" 8th S.C. Inf
Chesterfield C.H. S.C.
Capt'd near Winchester Va
Sept 13th 1864

P Sellers
1st Lt Co "B" 8th S.C. Inf
Chesterfield Co. Ho. S.C.

J. T. Goodson
2nd Lt Co A 8th S.C. Regt
Darlington CH
S.C.
March 7th 1865

Richard T. Powell (b-Abt. 1841), captain Company B 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, captured near Winchester September 13, 1864, was the son of Richard T. and Mary Powell of Chesterfield County, South Carolina.

Phillip Sellers (1841-1924), 1st lieutenant Company B 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Sellers of Chesterfield County, South Carolina, was wounded in September 1863 and in April 1864. He was captured near Winchester on September 13, 1864, and left Johnson's Island in June 1865.

Joshua Thomas Goodson (1834-1909), 2nd lieutenant Company A 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864. Goodson married Anna Hudson (1842-1881) and was a farmer in Antioch, South Carolina.

J. Thos Rhodes
2nd Lt Co F. 8th S.C. Regt
Darlington S.C.

Capt
near Winchester Va
Sept 13 - 1864

John W Henagan
Col 8th Regt S.C.V.
Address
Bennettsville South Carolina

Wm Mc Guinnis
Lieut Co F 10th Tenn

J. Thos Rhodes
2nd Lt Co F. 8th S.C. Regt
Darlington S.C.

Cap
near Winchester Va
Sept 13 - 1864

John W Henagan
Col 8th Regt S.C.V.
Address
Bennettsville South Carolina

Wm Mc Guinnis
Lieut Co F 10th Tenn

James Thomas Rhodes (1839-Aft. 1880), 2nd lieutenant Company F 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, was captured near Winchester September 13, 1864. Rhodes was a farmer in Swift Creek, South Carolina. His wife was named Hannah.

John Wilford Henagan (1822-1865), colonel 8th Regiment South Carolina Infantry, wounded at South Mountain, Maryland September 1862, captured near Winchester September 13, 1864, died in prison April 25, 1865 and is buried in grave 177 at Johnson's Island. Henagan, son of E. L. and Ann McInnis Henagan, was elected sheriff of Marlboro County in 1852 and elected to the South Carolina Legislature in 1860 and 1863. Henagan was a brigadier general in the South Carolina Militia, a politician, and a farmer.

William McGuinnis, McGinnis in the regiment roster, lieutenant Company F 10th Regiment Tennessee Infantry the "Bloody Tenth," one of the two Irish Catholic Regiments in the Confederate Army.

G. G. Westcott
Capt & ADeC
Carter's Artillery
Greensboro
Ala

John White Capt
5th Ala Regt
Cahaba
Ala

R. H. Isbell
Capt 1st Ala Regt
Talladega
Ala

G. G. Westcott
 Capt & ADeC
 Carter's Artillery
 Lee's Army.
 Greensboro
 Ala

John White Capt
 5th Ala Regt
 Cahaba
 Ala

R. H. Isbell
 Capt 1st Ala Regt
 Talladega
 Ala.

Gideon G. Westcott (1836-Aft. 1880), captain and aide-de-camp Carter's Artillery Battalion. According to the 1850 Census, Sumter County, Alabama, Gideon Westcott, age 15 born in Rhode Island, was living with the family of a merchant also from Rhode Island. After the war, Westcott was a clerk in Mobile, Alabama. His wife was named Leila.

John White, captain and assistant quartermaster 5th Regiment Alabama Infantry, was captured at Monterey, Pennsylvania July 5, 1863, exchanged March 1865, and paroled May 30, 1865 at Selma, Alabama.

Robert Houston Isbell (1834-1892), captain Company D "Talladega Rifles" 1st Regiment Alabama Volunteer Infantry, was captured at Port Hudson July 9, 1863. Isbell, son of James and Rutelia Huston Isbell, graduated from Cumberland University and practiced law in Talladega. After the war, he became a partner in the Isbell National Bank founded in 1848 by his father. The bank became the First National Bank of Talladega in 1978 and is the oldest continuously operating bank in Alabama. Isbell was one of John Taylor's roommates in Block 1 Mess 2. He never married.

Isaac W. Reese
1st Lt Co "G" 66th Ga Regt
Madison
Georgia

J. M. Adams
Lieut. 2^d S.C. Rifles
(Pendleton S.C.)

S. Yates Levy
Capt Co 'D' 1st Vol. Reg. of Ga.
Walker's Division Hardee's Corps
Army of Penn
Savannah
Ga.

Isaac W Reese
 1st Lt Co "G" 66th Ga Regt
 Madison
 Georgia

J. M. Adams
 Lieut. 2^d S.C. Rifles
 (Pendleton S.C.)

S. Yates Levy
 Capt Co 'D' 1st Vol. Reg. of Ga.
 Walker's Division Hardee's Corps
 Army of Tenn.
 Savannah,
 Ga.

Isaac W. Reese, 1st lieutenant Company G 66th Regiment Georgia Infantry, enlisted in Company D 3rd Regiment Georgia Infantry as a 2nd corporal in April 1861, was wounded at Sharpsburg September 1862, and wounded at Chancellorsville May 1863. The 66th regiment was formed in the summer of 1863. Reese enlisted in the 66th Regiment as a 2nd lieutenant. He was captured at Nashville December 15, 1864, and was released from Johnson's Island May 19, 1865.

Joseph Manning Adams (1836-1878), 2nd lieutenant Company H 2nd Regiment South Carolina Rifles, was quartermaster for Jenkins' Brigade with the rank of major, but resigned because there were no opportunities for promotion. He enlisted as lieutenant in the 2nd Rifles, was wounded and captured at Chickamauga September 1863. Adams, son of Jasper Adams, was the principal of Anderson South Carolina Military Academy before the war. At Johnson's Island, he studied law and after his release was admitted to the bar. He married Eugenia Postell Earle in 1866 and lived in Old Pickens Court House, South Carolina.

Samuel Yates Levy (1827-1888), captain Company D "Savannah City Light Guards" 1st Regiment Georgia Volunteer Infantry, was promoted to major before the end of the war. He was a member of the Masonic Prison Association at Johnson's Island. Levy, the son of Jacob Clavius and Fanny Yates Levy of Savannah, was born in Charleston. His sister was Phoebe Yates Levy Pember (1823-1913) the matron of Chimborazo Hospital in Richmond during the war. Levy was a lawyer in Savannah. His wife was named Anna Bella.

G. Troup Maxwell
Col of Cavly PACS
Comdg 1st Fla Cavly
Tallahassee
Florida

G. Troup Maxwell
 Col of Cavly PACS
 Cmdg 1st Fla Cavly
 Tallahassee
 Florida

Wm Brailsford
Capt Co H 5th Ga Cav
Army Tenn
Address Savannah
Ga

W^m Brailsford
 Capt Co H 5th Ga Cav
 Army Tenn
 Address
 Savannah
 Ga

J. Guerard Heyward
Lt 1st S.C. Artillery
Address Charleston S.C.
Morris Island
July 10th 1863

J. Guerard Heyward
 Lt 1st S.C. Artillery
 Address Charleston S.C.
 "Morris Island"
 July 10th 1863

George Troup Maxwell (1827-1898), colonel of cavalry Provisional Army of Confederate States commanding 1st Regiment Florida Cavalry Dismounted, was captured at Missionary Ridge November 25, 1863. He was released from Johnson's Island March 1865. Maxwell, the son of John Jackson Maxwell of Bryan County, Georgia, received his medical degree from the University of New York in 1848 and practiced medicine in Florida. He was a surgeon in the prison hospital at Johnson's Island. In 1893, Maxwell was commander of the R. E. Lee Camp No. 58 United Confederate Veterans in Jacksonville.

William Brailsford (1826-1887), captain Company H 5th Regiment Georgia Cavalry, Army of Tennessee, enlisted in the 1st Battalion Georgia Cavalry the "Lamar Rangers" June 7, 1861, and became captain September 1, 1861. On January 20, 1863, the company became Company H 5th Regiment Georgia Cavalry. Brailsford was captured near Murfreesboro, Tennessee on September 6, 1864. He was released May 30, 1865. Brailsford was the son of Daniel H. and Jane Spaulding Brailsford. His plantation on Sutherland's Bluff in Macintosh County, Georgia was used as a headquarters for the "Lamar Rangers" and was destroyed by Federal troops. After the war, Brailsford was a farmer in Ways Station, Georgia.

Jacob Guerard Heyward (1844-1888), 1st lieutenant Company I 1st Regiment South Carolina Artillery, was captured at Morris Island on July 10, 1863. He was the son of George Cuthbert and Elizabeth Martha Guerard Heyward of Charleston. Heyward married Pauline de Caradeuc in 1866 and was a cotton factor in Savannah.

At the back of *Autographs*, John Taylor added a list of prisoners who he thought were from South Carolina. The words in italics are John's.

List of So. Ca. Officers confined in Johnson's Is^d Ohio - 1864 and 1865

J. H. Crawford 2nd Lieut. Co "G" Orr's Rifles - S.C.V.

John H. Crawford, Due West, South Carolina, was captured at Falling Waters, Maryland July 14, 1863.

J. D. Charles 1st Lieut. Co. "G" Orr's Rifles - S.C.V. Autograph, p. 75.

T. J. Hall 2nd Lieut. Co. "E" Orr's Rifles - S.C.V. Autograph, p. 77.

W. A. Miles 2nd Lieut. Co. "A" 1st S.C. Rifles

William A. Miles, Waterloo, South Carolina, was captured July 15, 1863 at Falling Waters, Maryland.

W. E. Walters, Chaplain 2nd So. Ca. Rifles

William E. Walters, chaplain field and staff 2nd Regiment South Carolina Rifles, a Baptist minister, was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Pendleton, South Carolina 1866-1868.

John H. Bowen, Capt. Co. "K" Hampton Legion S.C.V.

John H. Bowen (1839-Aft. 1880), Arnolds Mills, South Carolina, was captured at Lookout Mountain October 29, 1863. He was a farmer living in Easley, South Carolina.

S. T. Anderson Lt. Co. "D" 1st S.C. Cavalry

Samuel T. Anderson (1839-Aft. 1880), Rossville, South Carolina, was a physician. His wife's name was Amelia.

T. J. H. Douglass Lt. Co. "G" 5th Va. Cavalry - Chester S.C. Autograph, p. 76.

Wm. U. Hunt Lt. Co. "K" 16th Reg^t So. Ca. Vols.

William Uriah Hunt (1830-1894) was captured at Missionary Ridge November 1863. Hunt was a farmer in Paris Mountain, South Carolina. His wife was named Martha.

C. A. Parkins, Capt. Co. "B" 16th So. Ca. Inf^{try}

Charles Allen Parkins (1831-1910) was captured at Graysville, Georgia November 26, 1863. Parkins, a farmer in Gantt, South Carolina, married Mary Henrietta Sullivan (1836-1916).

P. B. Burnham, Brvt. 2^d Lt. Co. "K" 16th S.C. Infantry

Porter B. Burnham, Greenville County, South Carolina, was captured at Graysville, Georgia November 26, 1863.

A. J. Monroe Capt. Co. "E" 16th So. Ca. Inf^{try}

Andrew Jackson Monroe (1824-1898), son of Robert Alexander and Elizabeth Austin Monroe of Laurens County, South Carolina, was captured at Graysville, Georgia November 26, 1863. Monroe was a farmer in Sullivan, South Carolina. He married Nancy Ann Bagwell in 1871.

J. R. Boyles, Lt. Co. "C" 12th So. Ca. Infantry

J. R. Boyle, Ridgeway, South Carolina, was wounded and captured at Gettysburg. His leg was amputated twice by a drunken Confederate doctor. He was sent to DeCamp General Hospital, David's Island, New York before being sent to Johnson's Island. He was exchanged March 1864. His experiences are described in his book, *Reminiscences of The Civil War by Lieut. J. R. Boyle of Company "C," 12th S. C. V., Gregg's Brigade.*

J. A. Hinnant, Capt. Co. "C" 12th So. Ca. Inf^{try}

John A. Hinnant (1843-Aft. 1901), Winnsboro, South Carolina, lost his left leg and was captured at Gettysburg. He was exchanged March 1864. Hinnant was a farmer in Fairfield County, South Carolina. His wife's name was Margaret.

G. C. Finklea, Lt. Co. "I" 10th So. Ca. Infantry

George C. Finklea (1820-Aft. 1880), Conwayboro, South Carolina, was captured at Missionary Ridge November 25, 1863. In 1880, Finklea was a retired rice planter living in Savannah. His wife was named Celia.

J. A. Duggan, 2nd Lieut. Co. "B" 10th S. C. Inf.

John A. Duggan, Williamston, North Carolina.

J. F. Banks, 1st Lt. Co. "G" 13th So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 73.

John Dewberry, Lieut. Co. "E" 13th So. Ca. Infantry Autograph, p. 74.

J. H. Williams, Lt. Co. "F" 4th So. Ca. Infantry Autograph, p. 75.

A. M. Bowers, Lieut. Co. "D" 13th So. Ca. Infantry

Andrew M. Bowers was captured at Gettysburg July 5, 1863. Bowers was a bar keeper in Newberry, South Carolina.

A. F. Jordan Lieut. Co. "H" 14th So. Ca. Infantry Autograph, p. 73.

E. F. O'Neill 2nd Lieut. Rhett's Battery Alexander's Batⁿ Autograph, p. 74.

S. Cogburn Jr. 2nd Lt. Co. "K" 14th So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 74.

R. H. Fennell 2nd Lt. Co. "H" 24 S. C. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 79.

N. H. Palmer 1st Lieut. Co. "C" 7th S. C. Inf^{try}

Nicholas Hodges Palmer, Abbeville Court House, South Carolina, wounded at Fredericksburg December 1862, wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863, was promoted to captain August 1863 while in prison.

J. A. Derrick 1st Lt. Co. "I" 15th So. Ca. Inf^{try}

James A. Derrick, Countsville, Lexington District, South Carolina.

W. G. Reynolds Lt. Co. "A" 8th So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 82.

W. M. Gunnels Jr. 2nd Lt. Co. "D" 3rd So. Ca. Batⁿ Inf. Autograph, p. 84.

N. K. Sullivan 1st Lt. Co. "C" Orr's Reg^t Rifles Autograph, p. 76.

P. H. B. Shuler 1st Lieut. Co. "A" 2nd So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 76.

A. P. Brown Capt. Co. "K" 1st So. Ca. Cavalry

Angus P. Brown (1823-Aft. 1894), Aiken, South Carolina, wounded and captured at Upperville, Virginia June 21, 1863, lived in Block 11. He wrote of his prison experiences and called Johnson's Island "...this prison hell which was too horrible to describe" (Brooks, 497). He was clerk of court for Aiken County, and in 1894, Brown was commander of the Confederate Veteran's Camp in Columbia.

John M. Harris Capt. Co. "D" 3rd Batⁿ S.C.I. Autograph, p. 75.

A. A. King 2nd Lieut. Co. "A" 3rd S. C. Batⁿ Inf.

Alexander Adams King (1822-Aft. 1880), wounded and captured at Gettysburg July 1863, was promoted to captain in September 1863 while in prison. King was a farmer in Waterloo, South Carolina. His wife was named May.

R. G. Howard, Capt. Co. "I" 21st So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 77.

Wm Clyburn, Capt. Co. "G" 7th Batⁿ S.C.I.

William Clyburn (1830-1900), Kershaw County, South Carolina, captured at Morris Island July 1863, was exchanged in February or March 1864. John Taylor's mother wrote on March 16, 1864, "Capt. Clyburne was among the returned prisoners last week." Clerk of Court for Kershaw County, he married Theodosia Reed.

Jas. Campbell 2nd Lieut. Co. "F" Charleston Batt.

James Campbell (1835-1907), lieutenant Company F 1st Battalion South Carolina Infantry, was born in Scotland and came to the United States in the 1850s. He settled in Charleston while the rest of his family went to New York. His brother Alexander (1837-1909) fought with the 79th Regiment New York Infantry. The brothers were on opposite sides at the battle of Secessionville June 1862, and after the battle each found out that the other was there. James, under a white flag, tried to find Alexander but did not succeed. Alexander, wounded at 2nd Manassas, resigned in 1863. James was captured July 18, 1863 at Battery Wagner. He arrived at Johnson's Island in October 1863, was sent to Point Lookout in February 1864, and then sent to Fort Delaware in June 1864. He was released from prison June 12, 1865. The prison letters of James to Alexander are published in the book Him on the One Side and Me on the Other. After the war, James became a wealthy rice planter and lived in Charleston.

A. P. Craig 2nd Lieut. Co. "E" 21st So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 78.

Saml. Dibble 2nd Lieut. Edisto Rifles 25th So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 78.

T. A. Sanders 2nd Lieut. Co. "A" 2nd So. Ca. Cavalry Autograph, p. 78.

J. M. Woodward 1st Lieut. Co. "G" 21st So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 77.

S. L. Leaphart, Capt. Co. "A" 2nd So. Ca. Inf^{try} Autograph, p. 80.

J. Ravenel Macbeth Capt. 1st So. Ca. Artillery Autograph, p. 80.

J. G. Heyward Lt. 1st So. Ca. Artillery Autograph, p. 98.

F. J. Cameron Lt. Col. 6th Ark Regt Nativity So. Ca.

Feaster J. Cameron, wounded and captured at the battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee January 1, 1863, left Johnson's Island February 1864 and was exchanged in March 1864. He was wounded again in July 1864.

T. B. Farggason, 1st Lt. Co. "D" 14th Ala Regt. Inf.

Thomas B. Farggason (1831-1918), Milltown, Alabama, was captured at Gettysburg July 2, 1863.

Farggason was a farmer in Daviston, Alabama. His wife's name was Laura.

J. R. Breare Lt. Co. "E" 15th Ala. Inf^{try}

Joseph R. Breare (Abt. 1833-1866), born in England, was a lawyer in Newton, Alabama. He was captured at Gettysburg in July 1863 and exchanged in the fall of 1863.

J. B. Murphey, Lt. Co. "E" 3rd Tenn. Vol Reg^t

James B. Murphey, Biggsville, Tennessee, was captured May 12, 1863 at Bayou Nine, Louisiana.

Jonathon Archer 12th Reg^t Ark. Inf

Jonathon Archer (1834-1883), 1st lieutenant Company I 12th Arkansas Infantry Regiment, Princeton, Arkansas, was captured at Port Hudson July 9, 1863. He was at Johnson's Island from October 1863 to February 1864.

A. G. Archer (1st) Lieut. Co. "I" 12th Ark. Inf.

A. G. Archer (1837-1883), Princeton, Arkansas, captured at Port Hudson July 9, 1863 was exchanged in March 1864.

J. R. P. Fox, Capt. Co. "I" 1st So. Ca. Cavalry

John R. P. Fox, St. George, South Carolina, was a farmer in Collins, South Carolina. His wife was named Elizabeth.

W. C. Coker, Capt. Co. "U" 8th So. Ca. Inf.

William Caleb Coker (1839-1907), son of Caleb and Hannah Lide Coker of Society Hill, South Carolina, was wounded at Malvern Hill, and wounded and captured at Gettysburg in July 1863. Coker married sisters, first Mary (1847-1888) and then Lavinia Melver (1845-1927). Coker was a merchant in Society Hill.

W. T. Norwood Lt. Co. "E" 6th So. Ca. Inf (died Jan. 11th '64)

William Tully Norwood (1834-1864), Darlington, South Carolina, John Taylor's friend at college, wounded at Sharpsburg September 1862, captured at Lookout Mountain October 28, 1863, died of chronic diarrhea January 11, 1864 and is buried in grave 136 at Johnson's Island.

B. F. Sharpton 1st Lieut. Co. "I" 7th So. Ca. Inf.

Benjamin F. Sharpton (1836-Aft. 1880), Cold Springs, Edgefield County, South Carolina, was captured at Gettysburg July 3, 1863. Sharpton was a farmer in Richmond County, Georgia. His wife was named Euphemia.

John Taylor Lt. Co. "B" Holcombe Legion Cavalry So. Ca. Vols. Autograph, p. 61.

T. F. Cooper Capt. Co. "K" 52nd Ga. Inf. (Died Feb. 11 '64)

Temple F. Cooper, captured at Baker's Creek, Mississippi May 16, 1863, died of erysipelas February 11, 1864 and is buried in grave 141 at Johnson's Island.

J. C. Clemson Lieut. C. S. A.

John Calhoun Clemson (1841-1871), 2nd lieutenant Company H 1st South Carolina Artillery, the son of Thomas Green and Anna Calhoun Clemson, grandson of John C. Calhoun, captured at Bolivar, Mississippi September 9, 1863 and released June 1865. He was killed in a train wreck near Seneca, South Carolina in August 1871.

Wm Spence, Lieut. Co. "G" 41st Ga Inf^{try}

Hiram William Spence, captured at Baker's Creek, Mississippi May 16, 1863, left Johnson's Island February 24, 1865.

There are several who are serving with troops from other states whose Regiments I do not know, consequently I will not put down their names.

Jno. W. Henagan Col. 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 95.

Wm. Odom Capt. Co. A 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 93.

Jno. J Rouse 1st Lt. 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 93.

J. T. Goodson 2nd Lt. Co. A 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 94.

R. T. Powell Capt. Co. B 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 94.

Phillip Sellers 1st Lt. Co. B 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 94.

W. A. Courtney 2nd " " " " " Autograph, p. 86.

Peter Moore 2nd " " " " " Autograph, p. 93.

S. Gillespie Godfrey 1st Lt. Co. C 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 85.

Jas. A. Craig 2nd Lt. Co. D 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 86.

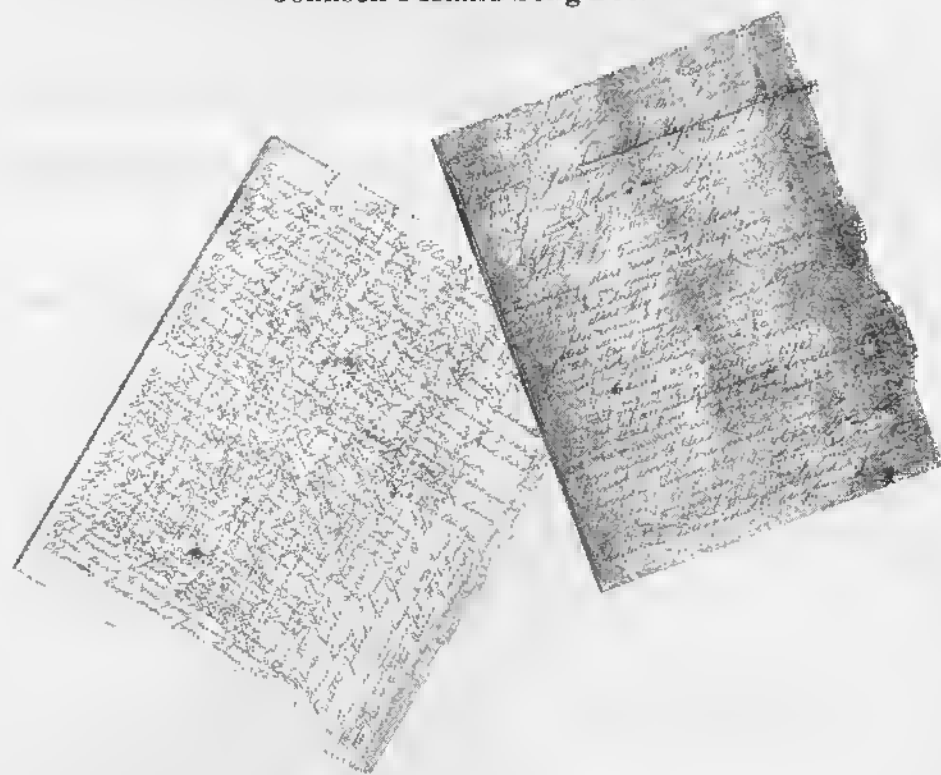
Wm E. James 1st Lt. Co. F 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 85.

C. E. McPherson 2nd Lt. Co. H 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 85.

W. T. Rogers 2nd Lt. Co. K 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 86.

Thos Rhodes 2nd Lt. Co. F 8th SC Regt Autograph, p. 95.

Johnson's Island Song Book



One of the souvenirs that John Taylor brought back to South Carolina from Johnson's Island was a prison song book. The book is 30 pages long and contains 45 songs and poems. Most of the pages are cross-written. The songs must have been contributed by many different prisoners since the handwriting varies from song to song. Some of the songs were the popular songs of the era, and some were written or modified by prisoners to reflect their situation. On the edge of the second page is written a list of all the songs in the book. At the top of the last page John wrote "John Taylor Lt. Co. B. Holcombe Legion So Ca Vol. Columbia S.C. Johnson's Island Nov. 14th 1863." In different hand writing is written, "Lieut. John Taylor with compl. of S. J. Harris."¹ At the bottom of the page John wrote, "This song as well as those preceding copied to be carried to camp in my letters to Dixie, there to be re-copied & given to Corporal Edmund D. England."² J. T."

Most of the songs were written in the 1850s. Many are mournful, but perhaps in the 1850s and 60s they were not as depressing as they sound today. Twenty-two are about girls and love—"Annie of the Vale," "Jessie," "Katy Darling" (Katy is dead), "Ellen Bayne," "Lorena," "Gentle Nettie Moore" (Nettie was sold into slavery), "Gentle Annie" (Annie is dead), "Bonnie Eloise," "Lilly Dale" (Lilly is dead), "Kitty Clyde" and her sister "Minnie Clyde," "Hazel Dell" (Nellie is dead), "Ben Bolt" (sweet Annie is dead), "Fairy Belle," and "Weeping Sad and Lonely."

The songs of mother, home, and childhood include "Rock Me to Sleep," "The Cottage by the Sea," "Who Will Care for Mother" (her son is dying), "What is Home Without a Mother" (mother is dead), "Mother Dear," "The Old Arm Chair" (mother died in the chair), "Willie We have Missed You," "Do They Miss me at Home," "A Child's Wish," and "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" (a sad version).

There are a few happier songs—"Goober Peas," "Good News from Home," and a version of "Rally Round the Flag" written by Captain John C. Ward 11th Regiment Virginia Infantry. There are also three poems written by Johnson's Island's famous poet Asa Hartz, the pseudonym of Major George McKnight.³

A selection of songs is included. They are copied exactly as written in the songbook.

¹ Samuel J. Harris, lieutenant Company D 38th Regiment Virginia Infantry. Autograph, p. 67.

² Edmund D. England, corporal Company B Cavalry Battalion Holcombe Legion (Company D 7th Regiment South Carolina Cavalry).

³ Enoch George McKnight (b-1833), major and assistant adjutant general Loring's Division Army of Mississippi, was captured at Jackson, Mississippi July 20, 1863. Born in Camden, South Carolina, he apprenticed at the *South Carolinian* newspaper in Columbia. After the war, he worked at a newspaper in New Orleans. His autograph book containing his poems is owned by the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia.

Ben Bolt {words by T. Dunn 1842, music by N. Kneass 1848}

Don't you remember Sweet Alice, Ben Bolt,—?
Sweet Alice whose hair was so brown,
Who wept with delight when you gave her a smile,
And trembled with fear at your frown?
In the old church yard in the valley, Ben Bolt,
In a corner obscure and alone,
They have fitted a slab of granite so gray,
And Alice lies under the stone.

2
Under the hickory tree, Ben Bolt,
Which stood at the foot of the hill,
Together we've lain in the noonday shade
And listened to Appleton's Mill
The mill-wheel has fallen to pieces, Ben Bolt,
The rafters have tumbled in,
And a quiet which crawls round the walls as you gaze,
Has followed the olden din.

3
There is a change in the things I loved, Ben Bolt,
They have changed from the old to the new;
But I feel in the core of my spirit the truth,
That there never was a change in you.
Twelve months, twenty have passed, Ben Bolt,
Since first we were friends, yet I hail,
Thy presence a blessing, thy friendship a truth,
Ben Bolt of the salt sea gale—

Kitty Clyde {L. V. H. Crosby }

O, who has not seen Kitty Clyde,
She lives at the foot of the hill,
In a sly little nook by the babbling brook,
That carries her father's old mill.
O, who does not love Kitty Clyde,
That sunny-eyed rosy cheek'd lass,
With a sweet dimpl'd chin that looks roughish as sin,
With always a smile as you pass.

Chorus: Sweet Kitty, dear Kitty, my own sweet
Kitty Clyde, In a sly little nook by the babbling
brook, Lives my own sweet Kitty Clyde.

2
With a basket to put in her fish,
Every morning with a line and a hook,
This sweet little lass, through the tall heavy grass,
Steals along by the clear running brook.
She throws her line into the stream,
And trips it along the brook side,
O, how I do wish that I was a fish,
To be caught by sweet Kitty Clyde. **Chorus**

3
How I wish that I was a Bee,
I'd not gather honey from flowers,
But would steal a dear sip from Kitty's sweet lip,
And make my own hive in her bowers.
Or, if I was some little bird,
I would not build nests in the air,
But keep close by the side of sweet Kitty Clyde,
And sleep in her soft silken hair. **Chorus**

Minnie Clyde {L. H. V. Crosby }

Oh, long have I sung of sweet Kitty Clyde,
Who lived at the foot of the hill;
And 'tho that sweet pretty bird has flown,
Another is living there still.
She's blithe and gay as the robin that sings
On the trees by the old mill-side;
And if ever I loved a girl in my life,
'Tis the charming, sweet Minnie Clyde.

Chorus: Oh, Minnie Clyde, she is my pride,
And sure I am no jester; For if ever I loved a girl
in my life, 'Tis Minnie, Kitty Clyde's sister.

2
I think her eyes are brighter than Kitty's;
The dimple in her chin is deeper;
I would be imprisoned the rest of my life,
With Minnie Clyde for my keeper.
In the festive throng she sings a sweet a song;
With the lowly alike she is meek;
Her eyes are the windows of the soul;
Through which Minnie's heart would speak.
Chorus

3
O Blest are the hearts that live in the cot;
That stands at the foot of the hill;
O, sweet are the songs that echo in the glen,
By the murmurs of the moss covered mill.
The birds all chant their notes to Minnie;
The angels above have caressed her;
But you have the angels and I have the birds,
And I'll have Kitty Clyde's sister. **Chorus**

Goober Peas

Words by A. Pindar, Music by P. Nutt, Esq.

Sitting by the roadside on a summer day
Chatting with my messmates passing time away
Lying in the shadows underneath the trees
Goodness how delicious, eating goober peas.

Chorus: Peas! Peas! Peas! Peas! Eating goober
peas! Goodness how delicious, eating goober peas.

2
When a horseman passes, the soldiers have a rule

To cry out their loudest "Mister here's your mule"
But another pleasure enchanting than these
Is wearing out your grinders, eating goober peas
Chorus

3

Sometimes before the battle the General hears a row
He says "the Yanks are coming, I hear their rifles now,"
He turns around in wonder, & what do you think he sees
The Georgia Militia, eating goober peas. Chorus

4

Tell me not of glory chatter not of fame-
of men who live in story, winning them a name
I'm content to sit down wholly at my ease
Free from care & worry eating goober peas.
Chorus

5

I loved a girl in Georgia, she was bright & fair
And was as beautiful as girls of Georgia are
We passed out time together, what happy days were these
And on the night we courted partook of goober peas. Chorus

6

But now we're here in prison, and likely long to stay
They keep us closely guarded no chance to get away
The rations they are short- it's cold enough to freeze
I wish I was back in Ga, eating goober peas.
Chorus

7

I think my song has lasted almost long enough
The subject's interesting, although the rhymes are rough
I wish this war was over when free from rags and fleas
We'd kiss our wives and sweethearts and gobble goober peas. Chorus

Lilly Dale {H. S. Thompson 1852}

'Twas a calm, still night, and the moon's pale light
Shone soft o'er hill and vale;
When friends mute with grief, stood around the deathbed,
Of my poor lost Lilly Dale.

Chorus: Oh! Lilly, sweet Lilly,

Dear Lilly Dale,
Now the wild rose blossoms
O'er her little green grave
'Neath the trees in the flow'ry vale.

2

Her cheeks that once glowed with the rose tint of health,
By the hand of disease had turned pale,
And the death damp was on the pure white brow,
Of my poor lost Lilly Dale. Chorus

3

I go, she said to the land of rest,
And ere my strength shall fail,
I must tell you where, near my own loved house,
You must lay poor Lilly Dale. Chorus

4

'Neath the chestnut tree, Where the wild flow'rs grow,
And the stream ripples forth thro' the vale,
Where the birds shall warble their songs in spring,
There lay poor Lilly Dale. Chorus

Row Row Your Boat

Down by the river, the old log hut stands,
Where Father and Mother once dwelt,
And the old door latch that was worn by our hands,
And the church where in prayer we knelt,
Years have passed since that happy time,
But the river keeps rolling along,
And the rippling sound on the mossy bank,
Is singing the same old song.

Chorus: Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
All that is past is gone, you know,
The future but a dream.

2

There stands the tree we used to climb
And the mill with the rolling din
And the old wharf boat that we used to float,
Where the school boys used to swim.
High grass grows over the master's grave
And the river keeps rolling along,
And the birds and the bees from the blossoms and the trees
All singing this same old song. Chorus

Katy Darling {L. Tripp 1853}

Oh they tell me thou art dead Katy darling,
That thy smile I may never more behold,

2

We have whipped them in the east, & we've
whipped them in the west,
Shouting etc.
We will drive the Yankee's back from the land we
love the best,
Shouting etc. Chorus

3

We will rally to the call of 100,000 more.
Shouting etc.
We will fight the bloody fight of our brothers gone
before,
Shouting the Battle Cry of freedom. Chorus

Weeping Sad and Lonely {The original, a Union
song, with words by C. Sawyer, music by H. Tucker
1862}

Dearest do you remember
How you told me that you loved me
Kneeling at my feet.
O how proud you stood before me
In your suit of grey,
When you vowed to me and country
Ever to be true.

Chorus: Weeping sad & lonely
Hopes & fears how vain, yet praying
When this cruel war is over
Hoping that we meet again.

2

When Summer breeze is sighing
Mournfully along
Or when Autumn's leaves are falling
Sadly breathe thy Song
Oft in dreams I see thee lying
On the battle field,
Severely wounded even dying
Calling but in vain. Chorus

3

If amid the din of battle
Nobly you do fall
Far away from those who love you
None to hear your call—
Who will whisper words of comfort?
Who will soothe yr. Pain?
Oh! the many cruel fancies
Ever in my brain! Chorus

4

But our country called you darling
Angels cheer yr. way
While our Nation's sons are fighting
We can only pray.
Nobly strike for God & Liberty
Let all nations see

Did they tell thee I was false, Katy Darling,
Or my love for thee had ere grown cold?
O they know not the loving
of the hearts of Erin's sons
When a love like to thine Katy Darling,
Is the goal to the race that he runs.
O hear me sweet Katy,
For the wild flowers greet me, Katy Darling,
And the love birds are singing on each tree,
Will those never more hear me, Katy Darling,
Behold love, I'm waiting for thee!

2

I'm kneeling by thy grave Katy Darling,
This world is all a bleak world to me;
O couldst thou hear me wailing, Katy Darling,
Or think, love, I am sighing for thee;
O I think the stars are weeping,
By their soft & lambent light;
And thy heart would be melting, Katy Darling,
Couldst thou see thy love Dermont this night.
O listen sweet Katy!
For the wild flowers are sleeping Katy Darling.
And the love birds are nestling in each tree
Wilt thou never more hear me Katy Darling,
Or know love, I'm kneeling by thee.

3

'Tis useless all my weeping, Katy Darling,
But I'll pray that thy spirit be my guide,
And that when my life is spent, Katy Darling,
They will lay me down to rest by thy side.
Oh, a huge great grief I'm bearing,
Though I scarce can heave a sigh;
And I'll ever be dreaming, Katy Darling,
Of thy love every day till I die,
Farewell then, sweet Katy.
For the wild flowers will blossom, Katy Darling,
And the love birds will warble on each tree,
But in heaven I shall meet thee, Katy Darling,
For there, love, thou'rt waiting for me.

Rally Round the Flag Boys {The original, a Union
song, was by G. F. Root 1862}

By Jno. C. Ward Capt. Co. E 11th Va Infy.

We will rally round the flag boys, rally once again
Shouting the Battle Cry of Freedom;
We will rally from the hills, we will rally from the
plains,
Shouting the Battle Cry of Freedom.

Chorus: The sunny South forever, Hurrah! boys,
Hurrah!
Down with the Yankees, up with the stars & bars;
While we rally round the flag boys, rally once
again,
Shouting the Battle Cry of Freedom.

How you love your starry banner
Emblem of the free. Chorus

Rock Me to Sleep {Elizabeth A. Allen}

Backward, turn backward, oh time in your flight,
Make me a child again, just for to-night!
Mother, come back from the echoless shore,
Take me again to your heart as of yore;
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care.
Smooth the few silver threads out of my hair
Over my slumbers your loving watch keep
Rock me to sleep, Mother Rock me to sleep.

Chorus: Rock me Rock me Rock me to sleep
Rock me Rock me Rock me to sleep

2

Backward, flow backward, oh tide of years!
I am so weary of toil and of tears!
Toil without recompense, tears all in vain
Take them and give me my childhood again!
I've so grown weary of dust and decay,
Weary of flinging my soulwealth away
Weary of sowing for others to reap;
Rock me to sleep, Mother Rock me to sleep!
Chorus

3

Tired of the hollow, the base, the untrue,
Mother, dear Mother, my heart calls for you!
Many a summer the grass has grown green,
Blossomed and faded, our faces between,
Yet with strong yearning and passionate pain,
Long I to-night for your presence again;
Come from the silence so long and so deep
Rock me to sleep, Mother, Rock me to sleep!
Chorus

4

Over my faint heart in days that have flown,
No love like Mother's love ever was shown,
No other worship abides and endures,
Faithful, unselfish, and patient like yours;
None like a Mother can charm away pain,
From the sick soul and the world weary brain;
Slumber's soft calm o'er my heavy lids creep,
Rock me to sleep, mother --- rock me to sleep
Chorus

5

{The writer must have forgotten verse 5. A place
was left for it, but no words were written.}

6

Mother, dear mother, the years have been long
Since I last hushed to thy lullaby song:
Sing then and unto my soul it shall seem
Womanhood's years have been but a dream.

Locked in thy arms in a loving embrace,
With your light lashes just sweeping my face,
Never hereafter to wake or to weep
Rock me to sleep mother, rock me to sleep!
Chorus

The Poetry of "Asa Hartz"

Exchanged By a Kentucky Lady

There was no exchange at the time this was written
except that from the "Pen" to the Burial Ground.
It was called such by the following from Asa
Hartz-

From his dim prison house by Lake Erie's bleak
shore
He is borne to his last resting place.
The glance of affection and friendship no more
Shall rest on the Captive's wan face.
The terms of the Cartel his God has arranged
And the victim of war has at length been
"exchanged."

His comrades consign his remains to the earth
With a tear and a sigh of regret.
He died far away from the land of his birth
From the land he could never forget.
Mid the scenes of his boyhood his fancy last
ranged
Ere the sorrows of life and its care were
"exchanged."

Lines Written by a Lady of Columbus, Ohio

A Captain on a lake-girt idle
Looks o'er the waters sadly
Whose thoughts on one whose blessed smile
Would welcome him so galdly.
But that beneath a northern sky
A sky to him so dreary,
He is doomed to pine & vainly sigh,
Away out on Lake Erie.

The winds that waft to others bliss,
But mock him with their tone,
The lips are pale they stoop to kiss,
With yearning for his home;
The waves that dash upon the beach,
Keep ceaseless guard and weary,
They chant of joys beyond the reach
Of him who looks on Eric.

They bear to him his mother's tone,
His sister's mournful song,
Until he longs to be alone,
Far from that captive throng;

And when he lays him down to sleep
With aching heart and weary,
The winds and waves his vigils keep,
Dear dreamer on Lake Erie.

But all who love him pray to God,
To bless his precious life
With patience to endure the rod,
With faith to close the strife;
And look beyond the dreary "now,"
To brighter days and better,
When native winds shall fan his brow
And only fond arms fetter.

My Love & I

My love reposes on a rosewood frame
A bunk have I,
A couch of feathery down fills up the same,
Mine straw, but dry-
She sinks to sleep at night with scarcely a sigh,
With waking eyes I watch the hours creep by-

My love her dinner daily takes in state,
And so do I!

The richest viands flank her silver plate,
Coarse grub have I,
Pure wine she sips at ease her thirst to slake,
I pump my drink from Erie's limpid lake.

My love has all the world to roam,
Three acres have I,
She goes abroad, or quiet stays at home,
So cannot I.
Bright angels watch around her couch at night,
A yank with loaded gun keeps me in sight.

A thousand weary miles now stretch between
My love & I
To her this winter night cold calm serene
I waft a sigh,
And hope with all earnestness of soul,
Tomorrow's mail may bring me my parole.

There's hope ahead we'll one day meet again,
My love & I
We'll wipe away all tears, of sorrow then,
Her lovelit eye
Will all my many troubles then beguile,
And keep this wayward Reb from Johnson's Isle.

My Love and I
By Asa Hartz

My love reposes on a rosewood frame,
A bunk have I,
A couch of feathery down fills up the same,
Mine straw, but dry,
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Her lovelit eye
Will all my many troubles then beguile,
And keep this wayward Rebel from Johnson's Isle.

Johnson's Island, 1863.

"My Love and I" from McKnight's autograph book
courtesy of The Museum of the Confederacy.

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The Taylor Burying Ground in Columbia
Many of the Taylors, Browns, Rhetts, and Elmores are buried here.

The verse on John Taylor's stone is from Proverbs 4:18, "The path of the just is as the shining light."
Sarah Hayne Taylor's verse is from Revelation 14:13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

Sarah will always be remembered for her deep faith, her belief that "our God is a prayer hearing and prayer answering God," and for her encouraging words to John as she put Bible verses into her own words: "As our day is so shall our strengths be," "All things will work together for your best and highest good," "The Lord reigneth & He doeth all things well," and "He doth not willingly grieve or afflict the children of men."

